

# ELECTION LAWS OF IOWA

OCTOBER 2009 SUPPLEMENT



Published under the authority of Iowa Code chapter 2B

by the

Legislative Services Agency

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF IOWA

Des Moines



# INSTRUCTIONS

## FOR

### Updating Election Laws of Iowa

Pages of *Election Laws of Iowa* to be replaced are listed in the column headed “**Remove Pages**”. Replacement pages are listed in the column headed “**Insert Pages**”. It is important to follow instructions in both columns.

<b>Remove Pages</b>	<b>Insert Pages</b>
iii.....	iii
v,vi.....	v,vi
1,2.....	1,2
3-4b.....	3-4b
24c,24d.....	24c,24d
71,72.....	71,72
79-82.....	79-82
89-94b.....	89-94
101,102.....	101,102
117,118.....	117,118
123,124.....	123,124
127,128.....	127,128
129-132.....	129-132
135-142.....	135-142
145,146.....	145,146
150a,150b.....	150a,150b
157-168.....	157-168
177-194.....	177-194
197-200b.....	197-200b
203,204.....	203,204
207,208.....	207,208
211-214.....	211-214
219,220.....	219,220
223-230.....	223-230
233-236.....	233-236
239-252.....	239-252
255-278.....	255-278
283,284.....	283,284
289-316.....	289-316
331,332.....	331,332
348a,348b.....	348a,348b
348g-350.....	348g-350
355-360.....	355-360
363-364b.....	363-364b

**October 2009 Supplement**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

**Remove Pages**

**Insert Pages**

367–370 .....	367–370
373–374d .....	373–374d
376c,376d .....	376c,376d
379–390b .....	379–390
393–396 .....	393–396
397–408 .....	397–408
413–422 .....	413–422
423,424 .....	423,424
431–436 .....	431–436
441–448b .....	441–448b
457,458 .....	457,458
482c–482f .....	482c–482f
485–494 .....	485–494b
497–502 .....	497–502
507–512 .....	507–512
525–528 .....	525–528
533–540 .....	533–540b
545,546 .....	545,546
549,550 .....	549,550
555–560 .....	555–560
563,564 .....	563,564
567–570 .....	567–570
575–586 .....	575–586
587–590 .....	587–590
601,602 .....	601,602
607,608 .....	607,608
614c,614d .....	614c,614d
619,620 .....	619,620
624c,624d .....	624c,624d
629,630 .....	629,630
633,634 .....	633,634
639,640 .....	639,640
I-1 – I-36 .....	I-1 – I-36
Page Checklist pages 1 to 10 .....	Page Checklist 1 – 10

October 2009 Supplement

**Sections Affected by the  
October 2009 Supplement  
of the  
ELECTION LAWS OF IOWA**

<b>Section Affected</b>	<b>Action in Election Laws</b>	<b>Source</b> [Chapter and Section(s) of 2009 Acts except where noted]
1857 Constitution of the State of Iowa — Codified, Art. II, §5.....	Repealed and rewritten, footnote stricken, and footnote added	
2.27 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §1
8A.101.....	ADDED unnumbered paragraph 1 and subsection 3.....	Code 2009
8A.102.....	Footnote stricken	
15E.208.....	Section history updated	
16.6 .....	AMENDED .....	43, §3
39A.2.....	AMENDED .....	57, §3
42.3 .....	AMENDED .....	133, §11, 12
43.4 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §4
43.5 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §5
43.26 .....	Section text stricken because of repeal.....	57, §96
43.31 .....	ADDED .....	57, §6
43.45 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §7
43.77 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §8
44.5 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §9
45.1 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §10
46.2A.....	AMENDED and footnote stricken.....	133, §13
46.5 .....	Footnote added	
46.7 .....	Footnote added	
46.8 .....	Footnote added	

October 2009 Supplement

**Sections Affected by the  
October 2009 Supplement  
of the  
ELECTION LAWS OF IOWA**

<b>Section Affected</b>	<b>Action in Election Laws</b>	<b>Source</b> [Chapter and Section(s) of 2009 Acts except where noted]
46.9 .....	Footnote added	
46.9A .....	Footnote added	
46.10 .....	Footnote added	
46.11 .....	Footnote added	
46.12 .....	Footnote stricken and footnote added	
46.22 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §11
47.3 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §12
47.6 .....	AMENDED and footnote stricken .....	57, §13
48A.2 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §14
48A.8 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §15
48A.25A .....	AMENDED .....	57, §16
48A.26 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §17
48A.27 .....	AMENDED and footnote added .....	41, §24; 57, §18, 97
48A.31 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §19
48A.37 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §20
48A.38 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §21
48A.40 .....	Section text stricken because of repeal .....	57, §96
49.13 .....	AMENDED .....	41, §25
49.19 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §22
49.25 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §23
49.26 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §24
49.28 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §25
49.35 .....	Section text stricken because of repeal .....	57, §96

October 2009 Supplement

**Sections Affected by the  
October 2009 Supplement  
of the  
ELECTION LAWS OF IOWA**

<b>Section Affected</b>	<b>Action in Election Laws</b>	<b>Source</b> [Chapter and Section(s) of 2009 Acts except where noted]
49.36 .....	AMENDED .....	133, §14
49.42A.....	Section text stricken because of repeal.....	57, §96
49.43 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §26
49.44 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §27
49.48 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §28
49.53 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §29
49.56 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §30
49.57 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §31
49.57A.....	ADDED .....	57, §32
49.73 .....	AMENDED .....	138, §1
49.77 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §33
49.84 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §34
49.90 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §35
49.99 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §36
49.127 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §37
50.2 .....	Section text stricken because of repeal.....	57, §96
50.15A.....	AMENDED .....	57, §38
50.22 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §39
50.24 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §40
50.29 .....	AMENDED .....	41, §26
50.30 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §41
50.30A.....	ADDED .....	57, §42
50.39 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §43
50.48 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §44

**Sections Affected by the  
October 2009 Supplement  
of the  
ELECTION LAWS OF IOWA**

<b>Section Affected</b>	<b>Action in Election Laws</b>	<b>Source</b> [Chapter and Section(s) of 2009 Acts except where noted]
51.15.....	AMENDED .....	57, §45
52.1.....	AMENDED .....	57, §46, 47
52.3.....	AMENDED .....	57, §48
52.4.....	AMENDED .....	57, §49
52.5.....	AMENDED .....	57, §50
52.6.....	AMENDED .....	57, §51
52.7.....	Section text stricken because of repeal .....	57, §96
52.8.....	AMENDED .....	57, §52
52.9.....	Section text stricken because of repeal .....	57, §96
52.10.....	Section text stricken because of repeal .....	57, §96
52.17.....	Section text stricken because of repeal .....	57, §96
52.18.....	Section text stricken because of repeal .....	57, §96
52.19.....	AMENDED .....	57, §53
52.20.....	Section text stricken because of repeal .....	57, §96
52.23.....	AMENDED .....	57, §54
52.24.....	AMENDED .....	57, §55
52.25.....	AMENDED and footnote stricken .....	57, §56; 133, §15
52.27.....	AMENDED .....	57, §57
52.28.....	AMENDED .....	57, §58
52.29.....	AMENDED .....	57, §59
52.41.....	AMENDED .....	57, §60

October 2009 Supplement

**Sections Affected by the  
October 2009 Supplement  
of the  
ELECTION LAWS OF IOWA**

<b>Section Affected</b>	<b>Action in Election Laws</b>	<b>Source</b> [Chapter and Section(s) of 2009 Acts except where noted]
53.2 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §61
53.8 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §62, 63; 143, §1
53.11 .....	AMENDED .....	131, §1
53.17 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §64
53.18 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §65
53.20 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §66
53.21 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §67
53.22 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §68; 143, §2–4
53.23 .....	AMENDED .....	140, §1
53.24 .....	Section text stricken because of repeal.....	57, §96
53.25 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §69
53.30 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §70
53.40 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §71
53.53 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §72
62.1A.....	AMENDED .....	133, §16
62.2 .....	AMENDED .....	133, §17
68A.101.....	AMENDED .....	42, §1
68A.301.....	AMENDED .....	42, §2
68A.302.....	AMENDED .....	20, §1
68A.303.....	AMENDED .....	42, §3
68A.401.....	Footnote added .....	8, §1, 2
68A.402.....	AMENDED .....	42, §4
68A.404.....	AMENDED .....	42, §5
68A.405.....	AMENDED .....	41, §27

October 2009 Supplement

**Sections Affected by the  
October 2009 Supplement  
of the  
ELECTION LAWS OF IOWA**

<b>Section Affected</b>	<b>Action in Election Laws</b>	<b>Source</b> [Chapter and Section(s) of 2009 Acts except where noted]
68A.503 .....	AMENDED .....	41, §28; 42, §6
68A.506 .....	ADDED .....	64, §1
68B.22 .....	AMENDED .....	133, §18
68B.25 .....	STRICKEN (Transferred to §68B.34) .....	9, §6
68B.32A .....	AMENDED .....	181, §41
68B.34 .....	ADDED (Transferred from §68B.25) .....	9, §6
68B.35 .....	AMENDED .....	9, §5
69.8 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §73
69.12 .....	Footnote stricken	
69.16A .....	AMENDED and footnote added .....	162, §1, 2
75.1 .....	AMENDED and footnote stricken .....	133, §20
99F.7 .....	Footnote stricken	
101C.2 .....	AMENDED .....	141, §1, 2
145A.7 .....	Footnote stricken	
145A.12 .....	ADDED .....	Code 2009
161A.5 .....	AMENDED .....	41, §201
161F.6 .....	ADDED .....	Code 2009 as amended by 133, §69
176A.8 .....	AMENDED .....	41, §70
176A.10 .....	AMENDED and footnote added .....	41, §205
222.31 .....	AMENDED .....	133, §215
232C.4 .....	ADDED subsection 3 only .....	153, §6
256.11 .....	AMENDED .....	50, §1, 2; 57, §74

October 2009 Supplement

**Sections Affected by the  
October 2009 Supplement  
of the  
ELECTION LAWS OF IOWA**

<b>Section Affected</b>	<b>Action in Election Laws</b>	<b>Source</b> [Chapter and Section(s) of 2009 Acts except where noted]
257.29 .....	Footnote stricken	
260C.11.....	AMENDED .....	41, §101
260C.15.....	AMENDED .....	57, §75
260C.22.....	AMENDED .....	41, §263; 57, §76
260C.28.....	Footnote stricken	
260C.39.....	Footnote stricken	
275.18 .....	AMENDED and footnote stricken .....	57, §77
275.23A.....	Footnote stricken	
275.24 .....	Footnote stricken	
275.25 .....	AMENDED .....	41, §263
275.35 .....	Footnote stricken	
275.36 .....	Footnote stricken	
275.38 .....	Footnote stricken	
275.41 .....	AMENDED .....	41, §248
275.55 .....	AMENDED and footnote stricken .....	50, §5
277.2 .....	Footnote stricken	
278.1 .....	AMENDED and footnote stricken .....	10, §1, 4
279.39 .....	Footnote stricken	
280.9A.....	AMENDED .....	57, §78
294.8 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §79
297.11 .....	AMENDED and footnote stricken .....	41, §110
297.25 .....	AMENDED .....	10, §3, 4
298.2 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §80

October 2009 Supplement

**Sections Affected by the  
October 2009 Supplement  
of the  
ELECTION LAWS OF IOWA**

<b>Section Affected</b>	<b>Action in Election Laws</b>	<b>Source</b> [Chapter and Section(s) of 2009 Acts except where noted]
298.9 .....	AMENDED and footnote stricken .....	57, §81, 97
298.18 .....	AMENDED and footnote stricken .....	133, §110
298.18A .....	Footnote stricken	
298.21 .....	Footnote stricken	
300.2 .....	Footnote stricken	
301.24 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §82
331.201 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §83
331.301 .....	AMENDED .....	100, §8, 21
331.382 .....	Section history updated	
331.383 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §84
331.402 .....	AMENDED .....	100, §9, 21
331.425 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §85
331.427 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §86
331.441 .....	AMENDED .....	41, §263; 57, §87; 100, §10, 21; 173, §33, 36
331.442 .....	AMENDED and footnote added .....	2, §1, 3, 4
331.447 .....	AMENDED and footnote added .....	2, §2, 4
331.502 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §88
331.602 .....	Section history updated	
331.653 .....	AMENDED .....	133, §126
347.7 .....	AMENDED .....	110, §5; 179, §38
347.9 .....	AMENDED .....	110, §6
347.9A .....	ADDED .....	110, §7
347.10 .....	AMENDED .....	110, §8

October 2009 Supplement

**Sections Affected by the  
October 2009 Supplement  
of the  
ELECTION LAWS OF IOWA**

<b>Section Affected</b>	<b>Action in Election Laws</b>	<b>Source</b> [Chapter and Section(s) of 2009 Acts except where noted]
347.13 .....	STRICKEN (election provisions stricken from section)	
347.14 .....	AMENDED and footnote stricken .....	110, §12
347.23 .....	Footnote stricken	
347.23A.....	Footnote stricken	
347A.1.....	AMENDED .....	110, §15
358.8 .....	AMENDED .....	133, §128
358.9 .....	AMENDED .....	41, §121
358C.9.....	AMENDED .....	133, §129
359.17 .....	Section history updated	
362.11 .....	Footnote stricken	
364.2 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §89; 179, §228, 231
364.4 .....	AMENDED .....	100, §12, 21
368.19 .....	AMENDED and footnote stricken .....	57, §90
372.2 .....	Footnote stricken	
372.3 .....	Footnote stricken	
372.9 .....	Footnote stricken	
372.13 .....	AMENDED and footnote stricken .....	57, §91
373.6 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §92
376.2 .....	Footnote stricken	
376.4 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §93
384.12 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §94
384.24 .....	AMENDED .....	100, §13, 21
384.24A.....	AMENDED .....	100, §14, 21

October 2009 Supplement

**Sections Affected by the  
October 2009 Supplement  
of the  
ELECTION LAWS OF IOWA**

<b>Section Affected</b>	<b>Action in Election Laws</b>	<b>Source</b> [Chapter and Section(s) of 2009 Acts except where noted]
384.84 .....	AMENDED .....	72, §6;133, §131, 132
384.84A .....	Internal reference corrected	
392.6 .....	AMENDED .....	110, §16
423A.2 .....	AMENDED .....	179, §137
423B.1 .....	Footnote stricken	
455A.4 .....	Section history updated	
468.511 .....	AMENDED .....	57, §95
476.23 .....	Internal reference corrected	
602.6304 .....	Footnote added	
602.7103B .....	Footnote added	
633.20B .....	Footnote added	

October 2009

### **EDITOR'S NOTE**

This publication contains election laws as they appear in the Iowa Code 2009 and Iowa Code Supplement 2009 that are effective on or before January 1, 2010.

The Election Laws compilation is updated annually by the issuance of replacement pages containing amendments and new enactments.

### **PREFATORY STATEMENT**

“The official printed versions of the Iowa Code, Iowa Code Supplement, and Iowa Acts published under authority of the state are the only authoritative publications of the statutes of this state. Other publications of the statutes of the state shall not be cited in the courts or in the reports or rules of the courts...” [Iowa Code §2B.17(3)]



## 1857 CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF IOWA — CODIFIED

## ARTICLE II.

## RIGHT OF SUFFRAGE.

**Electors.** Sec. 1. Every citizen of the United States of the age of twenty-one years, who shall have been a resident of this state for such period of time as shall be provided by law and of the county in which he claims his vote for such period of time as shall be provided by law, shall be entitled to vote at all elections which are now or hereafter may be authorized by law. The general assembly may provide by law for different periods of residence in order to vote for various officers or in order to vote in various elections. The required periods of residence shall not exceed six months in this state and sixty days in the county.

Repealed and rewritten 1970, Amendment [30]  
See United States Constitution, Amendments 19 and 26

**Privileged from arrest.** Sec. 2. Electors shall, in all cases except treason, felony, or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest on the days of election, during their attendance at such election, going to and returning therefrom.

**From military duty.** Sec. 3. No elector shall be obliged to perform military duty on the day of election, except in time of war, or public danger.

**Persons in military service.** Sec. 4. No person in the military, naval, or marine service of the United States shall be considered a resident of this state by being stationed in any garrison, barrack, or military or naval place, or station within this state.

**Disqualified persons.** Sec. 5. A person adjudged mentally incompetent to vote or a person convicted of any infamous crime shall not be entitled to the privilege of an elector.

Repealed and rewritten 2008, Amendment [47]

**Ballot.** Sec. 6. All elections by the people shall be by ballot.

**General election.** Sec. 7. The general election for state, district, county and township officers in the year 1916 shall be held in the same month and on the same day as that fixed by the laws of the United States for the election of presidential electors, or of president and vice-president of the United States; and thereafter such election shall be held at such time as the general assembly may by law provide.

Repealed and rewritten 1916, Amendment [14]  
For statutory provisions, see §39.1 of the Code

## ARTICLE III.

## LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

**Representatives.** Sec. 3. The members of the house of representatives shall be chosen every second year, by the qualified electors of their respective districts, and their term of office shall commence on the first day of January next after their election, and continue two years, and until their successors are elected and qualified.

For provisions relative to the time of holding the general election, see codified Iowa Constitution, Art. II, §7; see also §39.1 of the Code

**Qualifications.** Sec. 4. No person shall be a member of the house of representatives who shall not have attained the age of twenty-one years, be a citizen of the United States, and shall have been an inhabitant of this state one year next preceding his election, and at the time of his election shall have had an actual residence of sixty days in the county, or district he may have been chosen to represent.

Amended 1880, Amendment [6] and 1926, Amendment [15]

**Senators — qualifications.** Sec. 5. Senators shall be chosen for the term of four years, at the same time and place as representatives; they shall be twenty-five years of age, and possess the qualifications of representatives as to residence and citizenship.

**Senators — number and classification.** Sec. 6. The number of senators shall total not more than one-half the membership of the house of representatives. Senators shall be classified so that as nearly as possible one-half of the members of the senate shall be elected every two years.

Repealed and rewritten 1968, Amendment [26]  
See also codified Iowa Constitution, Art. III, §34  
Referred to in §42.4 of the Code

**Officers — elections determined.** Sec. 7. Each house shall choose its own officers, and judge of the qualification, election, and return of its own members. A contested election shall be determined in such manner as shall be directed by law.

**Vacancies.** Sec. 12. When vacancies occur in either house, the governor or the person exercising the functions of governor, shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies.

**Local or special laws — general and uniform — boundaries of counties.** Sec. 30. The general assembly shall not pass local or special laws in the following cases:

- For the assessment and collection of taxes for state, county, or road purposes;
- For laying out, opening, and working roads or highways;
- For changing the names of persons;
- For the incorporation of cities and towns;
- For vacating roads, town plats, streets, alleys, or public squares;
- For locating or changing county seats.

## CODE OF IOWA

### MISCELLANEOUS SECTIONS

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY

##### **2.25 Joint conventions.**

Joint conventions of the general assembly shall meet in the house of representatives for such purposes as are provided by law. The president of the senate, or, in the president's absence, the president pro tempore of the senate shall preside at such joint conventions.

The speaker of the house of representatives may, for purposes of canvass of votes for governor and lieutenant governor and for the inauguration of such officers, designate any suitable hall at the seat of government as the hall of the house of representatives.

[R60, §674, 675; C73, §19; C97, §23; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §30; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, §2.31; C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §2.25]

##### **2.26 Secretary — record.**

The clerk of the house of representatives shall act as secretary of the convention, and the clerk and the secretary of the senate shall keep a fair and correct record of the proceedings of the convention, which shall be entered on the journal of each house.

[R60, §677; C73, §21; C97, §25; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §31; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, §2.32; C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §2.26]

##### **2.27 Canvass of votes for governor.**

The general assembly shall meet in joint session on the same day the assembly first convenes in January of 1979 and every four years thereafter as soon as both houses have been organized, and canvass the votes cast for governor and lieutenant governor and determine the election. When the canvass is completed, the oath of office shall be administered to the persons so declared elected. Upon being inaugurated the governor shall deliver to the joint assembly any message the governor may deem expedient.

[S13, §30-a; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §32; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, §2.33; C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §2.27]

2007 Acts, ch 59, §1, 19; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §1

##### **2.28 Tellers.**

1. After the time for the meeting of the joint convention has been designated each house shall appoint three tellers, and the six shall act as judges of the election.

2. Canvassing the votes for governor and lieutenant governor shall be conducted substantially according to the provisions of sections 2.25 through 2.27 and this section.

[R60, §676; C73, §20, 26; C97, §24, 30; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §33, 34; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, §2.34, 2.35; C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §2.28]

2008 Acts, ch 1032, §1

**2.29 Election — vote — how taken — second poll.**

When any officer is to be elected by joint convention, the names of the members shall be arranged in alphabetical order by the secretaries, and each member shall vote in the order in which the member's name stands when so arranged. The name of the person voted for, and the names of the members voting, shall be entered in writing by the tellers, who, after the secretary shall have called the names of the members a second time, and the name of the person for whom each member has voted, shall report to the president of the convention the number of votes given for each candidate.

If no person shall receive the votes of a majority of the members present, a second poll may be taken, or as many polls as may be required until some person receives a majority.

[R60, §678, 679, 680; C73, §22, 23; C97, §26, 27; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §35, 36; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, §2.36, 2.37; C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §2.29]

**2.30 Certificates of election.**

When any person shall have received a majority of the votes, the president shall declare the person to be elected, and shall, in the presence of the convention, sign two certificates of such election, attested by the tellers, one of which the president shall transmit to the governor, and the other shall be preserved among the records of the convention and entered at length on the journal of each house. The governor shall issue a commission to the person so elected.

[R60, §682; C73, §25; C97, §29; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §37; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, §2.38; C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §2.30]

## LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY

**2A.1 Legislative services agency created — services — legislative privileges — nonpartisanship and nonadvocacy.**

1. to 3. Not reprinted.

4. The director and all other employees of the legislative services agency shall not participate in partisan political activities and shall not be identified as advocates or opponents of issues subject to legislative debate except as otherwise provided by law or by the legislative council.

2003 Acts, ch 35, §1, 49

## CITIZENS' AIDE

**2C.7 Prohibited activities.**

Neither the citizens' aide nor any member of the staff shall:

1. to 3. Not reprinted.

4. Be actively involved in partisan affairs.

[C73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §601G.7]

84 Acts, ch 1046, §2

C93, §2C.7

## DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

**8A.101 Definitions.**

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

1. and 2. Not reprinted.
  3. “*Director*” means the director of the department of administrative services or the director’s designee.
  4. to 6. Not reprinted.
- 2003 Acts, ch 145, §1; 2007 Acts, ch 10, §4; 2008 Acts, ch 1031, §8

**8A.102 Department created — director appointed.**

1. Not reprinted.
2. The person appointed as director shall be professionally qualified by education and have no less than five years’ experience in the field of management, public or private sector personnel administration including the application of merit principles in employment, financial management, and policy development and implementation. The appointment shall be made without regard for political affiliation. The director shall not be a member of any local, state, or national committee of a political party, an officer or member of a committee in any partisan political club or organization, or hold or be a candidate for a paid elective public office. The director is subject to the restrictions on political activity provided in section 8A.416. The governor shall set the salary of the director within pay grade nine.

2003 Acts, ch 145, §2

**8A.416 Discrimination, political activity, use of official influence prohibited.**

1. A person shall not be appointed or promoted to, or demoted or discharged from, any position in the merit system, or in any way favored or discriminated against with respect to employment in the merit system because of the person’s political or religious opinions or affiliations or race or national origin or sex, or age.
2. A person holding a position in the classified service shall not, during the person’s working hours or when performing the person’s duties or when using state equipment or at any time on state property, take part in any way in soliciting any contribution for any political party or any person seeking political office, and such employee shall not engage in any political activity that will impair the employee’s efficiency during working hours or cause the employee to be tardy or absent from work. This section does not preclude any employee from holding any office for which no pay is received or any office for which only token pay is received.
3. A person shall not seek or attempt to use any political endorsement in connection with any appointment to a position in the merit system.
4. A person shall not use or promise to use, directly or indirectly, any official authority or influence, whether possessed or anticipated, to secure or attempt to secure for any person an appointment or advantage in appointment to a position in the merit system, or an increase in pay or other advantage in employment in any such position, for the purpose of influencing the vote or political action of any person or for any consideration.
5. An employee shall not use the employee’s official authority or influence for the purpose of interfering with an election or affecting the results thereof.
6. Any officer or employee who violates this section shall be subject to suspension, dismissal, or demotion subject to the right of appeal provided in this subchapter.

7. The director shall adopt any rules necessary for further restricting political activities of employees in the executive branch, but only to the extent necessary to comply with federal standards. Employees retain the right to vote as they please and to express their opinions on all subjects.

2003 Acts, ch 145, §64

See also chapters 39A and 721

**8A.418 Federal programs exemption exceptions — penalty.**

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subchapter to the contrary, a person employed under a temporary, emergency employment utilization program funded by the federal government which program does not exceed one year and which program is not subject to merit system standards by federal law, shall be exempt from this subchapter except as provided in this section.

2. A person employed as provided in this section shall be subject to the provisions of section 8A.416 relating to political activity and the civil penalties contained in such section and, consistent with subsection 1, the provisions of section 8A.417 relating to prohibited actions.

3. A person violating this section shall be subject to the penalty provided for in section 8A.458.

2003 Acts, ch 145, §66

**8A.458 Penalty.**

A person who willfully violates this subchapter or any rules adopted pursuant to this subchapter, where no other penalty is prescribed, is guilty of a simple misdemeanor.

2003 Acts, ch 145, §83

IOWA AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY FINANCE ACT

**15E.208 Qualified corporations — Iowa agricultural industry finance loans.**

1. The department\* may award an Iowa agricultural industry finance loan to an Iowa agricultural industry finance corporation if the department in its discretion determines that the corporation is qualified under this section.

2. Not reprinted.

3. The department shall loan all of the amounts available to the department pursuant to this division to a qualified corporation with provisions and restrictions as determined by the department and contained in a loan agreement executed between the department and the qualified corporation.

a. and b. Not reprinted.

c. The corporation shall not expend moneys originating from the state, including moneys loaned under this section, on political activity or on any attempt to influence legislation.

4. to 8. Not reprinted.

98 Acts, ch 1207, §9; 99 Acts, ch 66, §2; 2000 Acts, ch 1058, §6; 2001 Acts, ch 55, §20, 38; 2002 Acts, ch 1162, §29; 2003 Acts, ch 122, §1, 2; 2004 Acts, ch 1175, §324; 2006 Acts, ch 1185, §55; 2009 Acts, ch 41, §263

\*Department of economic development

IOWA FINANCE AUTHORITY

**16.6 Executive director — responsibilities.**

1. The governor, subject to confirmation by the senate, shall appoint an executive director of the authority, who shall serve at the pleasure of the governor. The executive director shall be selected primarily for administrative ability and knowledge in the field, without regard to political affiliation. The executive director shall not, directly or indirectly, exert influence to induce any other officers or employees of the state to adopt a political view, or to favor a political candidate for office.

2. to 4. Not reprinted.

[C77, 79, 81, §220.6]

86 Acts, ch 1237, §10; 88 Acts, ch 1158, §50; 89 Acts, ch 302, §11

C93, §16.6

2009 Acts, ch 43, §3

BLANK

## CHAPTER 39A

## ELECTION MISCONDUCT

See also definitions in §39.3

39A.1 Title and purpose — election officials defined.	39A.4 Election misconduct in the third degree.
39A.2 Election misconduct in the first degree.	39A.5 Election misconduct in the fourth degree.
39A.3 Election misconduct in the second degree.	39A.6 Technical infractions — notice.

---

**39A.1 Title and purpose — election officials defined.**

1. This chapter may be cited and referred to as the “*Election Misconduct and Penalties Act*”.

2. The purpose of this chapter is to identify actions which threaten the integrity of the election process and to impose significant sanctions upon persons who intentionally commit those acts. It is the intent of the general assembly that offenses with the greatest potential to affect the election process be vigorously prosecuted and strong punishment meted out through the imposition of felony sanctions which, as a consequence, remove the voting rights of the offenders. Other offenses are still considered serious, but based on the factual context in which they arise, they may not rise to the level of offenses to which felony penalties attach. The general assembly also recognizes that instances may arise in which technical infractions of chapters 39 through 53 may occur which do not merit any level of criminal sanction. In such instances, administrative notice from the state or county commissioner of elections is sufficient. Mandates or proscriptions in chapters 39 through 53 which are not specifically included in this chapter shall be considered to be directive only, without criminal sanction.

3. For the purposes of this chapter, “*election officials*” include the state commissioner, the county commissioner, employees of the state commissioner and county commissioner who are responsible for carrying out functions or duties under chapters 39 through 53, and precinct election officials appointed pursuant to sections 49.12, 49.14, 49.18, and 53.23.

2002 Acts, ch 1071, §1

**39A.2 Election misconduct in the first degree.**

1. A person commits the crime of election misconduct in the first degree if the person willfully commits any of the following acts:

*a. Registration fraud.*

(1) Produces, procures, submits, or accepts a voter registration application that is known by the person to be materially false, fictitious, forged, or fraudulent.

(2) Falsely swears to an oath required pursuant to section 48A.7A.

*b. Vote fraud.*

(1) Destroys, delivers, or handles an application for a ballot or an absentee ballot with the intent of interfering with the voter’s right to vote.

(2) Produces, procures, submits, or accepts a ballot or an absentee ballot, or produces, procures, casts, accepts, or tabulates a ballot that is known by the person to be materially false, fictitious, forged, or fraudulent.

(3) Votes or attempts to vote more than once at the same election, or votes or attempts to vote at an election knowing oneself not to be qualified.

(4) Makes a false or untrue statement in an application for an absentee ballot or makes or signs a false certification or affidavit in connection with an absentee ballot.

(5) Otherwise deprives, defrauds, or attempts to deprive or defraud the citizens of this state of a fair and impartially conducted election process.

*c. Duress.* Intimidates, threatens, or coerces, or attempts to intimidate, threaten, or coerce, a person to do or to refrain from doing any of the following:

(1) To register to vote, to vote, or to attempt to register to vote.

(2) To urge or aid a person to register to vote, to vote, or to attempt to register to vote.

(3) To sign a petition nominating a candidate for public office or a petition requesting an election for which a petition may legally be submitted.

(4) To exercise a right under chapters 39 through 53.

*d. Bribery.*

(1) Pays, offers to pay, or causes to be paid money or any other thing of value to a person to influence the person's vote.

(2) Pays, offers to pay, or causes to be paid money or any other thing of value to an election official conditioned on some act done or omitted to be done contrary to the person's official duty in relation to an election.

(3) Receives money or any other thing of value knowing that it was given in violation of subparagraph (1) or (2).

*e. Conspiracy.* Conspires with or acts as an accessory with another to commit an act in violation of paragraphs "a" through "d".

*f. Voting equipment tampering.* Intentionally alters or damages any computer software or any physical part of voting equipment, automatic tabulating equipment, or any other part of a voting system.

2. Election misconduct in the first degree is a class "D" felony.

2002 Acts, ch 1071, §2; 2007 Acts, ch 35, §1, 7; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §89, 90; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §3

### **39A.3 Election misconduct in the second degree.**

1. A person commits the crime of election misconduct in the second degree if the person willfully commits any of the following acts:

*a. Interference with validity of election.*

(1) Possesses an official ballot outside of the voting room unless the person is an election official or other person authorized by law to possess such a ballot.

(2) Makes or possesses a counterfeit of an official election ballot.

(3) Solicits or encourages a person to vote in an election knowing that person is not qualified to vote in the election.

(4) Files a challenge containing false information under section 48A.14 or 49.79.

*b. Actions by election official.* As an election official:

(1) Refuses to register a person who is entitled to register to vote under chapter 48A.

(2) Accepts a fee from an applicant applying for registration.

(3) While the polls are open, opens a ballot received from a voter, except as permitted by law.

(4) Marks a ballot by folding or otherwise so as to be able to recognize it.

(5) Attempts to learn how a voter marked a ballot.

(6) Causes a voter to cast a vote contrary to the voter's intention.

(7) Changes a ballot, or in any way causes a vote to be recorded contrary to the intention of the person casting that vote.

(8) Allows a person to do any of the acts proscribed by subparagraphs (1) through (7).

2. Election misconduct in the second degree is an aggravated misdemeanor.

2002 Acts, ch 1071, §3; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §83

**42.3 Timetable for preparation of plan.**

1. *a.* Not later than April 1 of each year ending in one, the legislative services agency shall deliver to the secretary of the senate and the chief clerk of the house of representatives identical bills embodying a plan of legislative and congressional districting prepared in accordance with section 42.4. It is the intent of this chapter that the general assembly shall bring the bill to a vote in either the senate or the house of representatives expeditiously, but not less than three days after the report of the commission required by section 42.6 is received and made available to the members of the general assembly, under a procedure or rule permitting no amendments except those of a purely corrective nature. It is further the intent of this chapter that if the bill is approved by the first house in which it is considered, it shall expeditiously be brought to a vote in the second house under a similar procedure or rule. If the bill embodying the plan submitted by the legislative services agency under this subsection fails to be approved by a constitutional majority in either the senate or the house of representatives, the secretary of the senate or the chief clerk of the house, as the case may be, shall at once, but in no event later than seven days after the date the bill failed to be approved, transmit to the legislative services agency information which the senate or house may direct by resolution regarding reasons why the plan was not approved.

*b.* However, if the population data for legislative districting which the United States census bureau is required to provide this state under Pub. L. No. 94-171 and, if used by the legislative services agency, the corresponding topologically integrated geographic encoding and referencing data file for that population data are not available to the legislative services agency on or before February 15 of the year ending in one, the dates set forth in paragraph “*a*” shall be extended by a number of days equal to the number of days after February 15 of the year ending in one that the federal census population data and the topologically integrated geographic encoding and referencing data file for legislative districting become available.

2. If the bill embodying the plan submitted by the legislative services agency under subsection 1 fails to be enacted, the legislative services agency shall prepare a bill embodying a second plan of legislative and congressional districting. The bill shall be prepared in accordance with section 42.4, and, insofar as it is possible to do so within the requirements of section 42.4, with the reasons cited by the senate or house of representatives by resolution, or the governor by veto message, for the failure to approve the plan. If a second plan is required under this subsection, the bill embodying it shall be delivered to the secretary of the senate and the chief clerk of the house of representatives not later than thirty-five days after the date of the vote by which the senate or the house of representatives fails to approve the bill submitted under subsection 1, or the date the governor vetoes or fails to approve the bill. If it is necessary to submit a bill under this subsection, the bill shall be brought to a vote not less than seven days after the bill is submitted and made available to the members of the general assembly, under a procedure or rule permitting no amendments except those of a purely corrective nature. It is further the intent of this chapter that if the bill is approved by the first house in which it is considered, it shall expeditiously be brought to a vote in the second house under a similar procedure or rule. If the bill embodying the plan submitted by the legislative services agency under this subsection fails to be approved by a constitutional majority in either the senate or the house of representatives, the secretary of the senate or the chief clerk of the house, as the case may be, shall transmit to the legislative services agency in the same manner as described in subsection 1,

information which the senate or house may direct by resolution regarding reasons why the plan was not approved.

3. If the bill embodying the plan submitted by the legislative services agency under subsection 2 fails to be enacted, the same procedure as prescribed by subsection 2 shall be followed. If a third plan is required under this subsection, the bill embodying it shall be delivered to the secretary of the senate and the chief clerk of the house of representatives not later than thirty-five days after the date of the vote by which the senate or the house of representatives fails to approve the bill submitted under subsection 2, or the date the governor vetoes or fails to approve the bill. The legislative services agency shall submit a bill under this subsection sufficiently in advance of September 1 of the year ending in one to permit the general assembly to consider the plan prior to that date. If it is necessary to submit a bill under this subsection, the bill shall be brought to a vote within the same time period after its delivery to the secretary of the senate and the chief clerk of the house of representatives as is prescribed for the bill submitted under subsection 2, but shall be subject to amendment in the same manner as other bills.

[C81, §42.3]

94 Acts, ch 1179, §1, 2; 2003 Acts, ch 35, §44, 49; 2006 Acts, ch 1010, §34; 2007 Acts, ch 78, §2–5; 2009 Acts, ch 133, §11, 12

#### **42.4 Redistricting standards.**

1. Legislative and congressional districts shall be established on the basis of population.

*a.* Senatorial and representative districts, respectively, shall each have a population as nearly equal as practicable to the ideal population for such districts, determined by dividing the number of districts to be established into the population of the state reported in the federal decennial census. Senatorial districts and representative districts shall not vary in population from the respective ideal district populations except as necessary to comply with one of the other standards enumerated in this section. In no case shall the quotient, obtained by dividing the total of the absolute values of the deviations of all district populations from the applicable ideal district population by the number of districts established, exceed one percent of the applicable ideal district population. No senatorial district shall have a population which exceeds that of any other senatorial district by more than five percent, and no representative district shall have a population which exceeds that of any other representative district by more than five percent.

*b.* Congressional districts shall each have a population as nearly equal as practicable to the ideal district population, derived as prescribed in paragraph “*a*” of this subsection. No congressional district shall have a population which varies by more than one percent from the applicable ideal district population, except as necessary to comply with Article III, section 37 of the Constitution of the State of Iowa.

## CHAPTER 43

## PARTISAN NOMINATIONS — PRIMARY ELECTION

See also definitions in §39.3

43.1	Primary election construed.	43.42	Change or declaration of party affiliation at polls.
43.2	Definitions.	43.43	Voter's declaration of eligibility.
43.3	Offices affected by primary.	43.44	Repealed by 75 Acts, ch 81, §154.
43.4	Political party precinct caucuses.	43.45	Canvass of votes.
43.5	Applicable statutes.	43.46	Delivering returns.
43.6	Nomination of U. S. senators, state and county officers.	43.47	Messenger sent for returns.
43.7	Time of holding.	43.48	Precinct counts publicly available.
43.8	State commissioner to furnish blanks.	43.49	Canvass by county board.
43.9	Commissioner to furnish blanks.	43.50	Signing and filing of abstract.
43.10	Blanks furnished by others.	43.51	Finality of canvass.
43.11	Filing of nomination papers.	43.52	Nominees for county office.
43.12	Noting time of filing.	43.53	Nominees for subdivision office — write-in candidates.
43.13	Failure to file nomination papers.	43.54	Right to place on ballot.
43.14	Form of nomination papers.	43.55	Nominee certified.
43.15	Requirements in signing.	43.56	Primary election recount provisions.
43.16	Return of papers, additions not allowed.	43.57	and 43.58 Repealed by 81 Acts, ch 34, §48.
43.17	Repealed by 86 Acts, ch 1224, §39.	43.59	Number of voters certified.
43.18	Affidavit of candidacy.	43.60	Abstracts to state commissioner.
43.19	Manner of filing affidavit.	43.61	Returns filed and abstracts recorded.
43.20	Signatures required — more than one office prohibited.	43.62	Publication of proceedings.
43.21	Township office. Repealed by 2005 Acts, ch 152, §10.	43.63	Canvass by state board.
43.22	Nominations certified.	43.64	State canvass conclusive.
43.23	Death or withdrawal of primary candidate.	43.65	Who nominated.
43.24	Objections to nomination petitions or certificates of nomination.	43.66	Write-in candidates.
43.25	Correction of errors.	43.67	Nominee's right to place on ballot.
43.26	Ballot — form. Repealed by 2009 Acts, ch 57, §96.	43.68	Certified list of nominees.
43.27	Printing of ballots.	43.69	Certificates in case of failure to nominate.
43.28	Names of candidates — arrangement.	43.70	Repealed by 75 Acts, ch 81, §154.
43.29	Form of name on ballot.	43.71	Messenger sent for abstracts.
43.30	Sample ballots.	43.72	State returns filed and recorded.
43.31	Form of official ballot — implementation by rule.	43.73	State commissioner to certify nominees.
43.32	through 43.35 Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.	43.74	Repealed by 75 Acts, ch 81, §154.
43.36	Australian ballot.	43.75	Tie vote.
43.37	Number of votes permitted per office.	43.76	Withdrawal of nominated candidates.
43.38	Voter confined to party ticket.	43.77	What constitutes a ballot vacancy.
43.39	Ballot for another party's candidate.	43.78	Filling ballot vacancies.
43.40	Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.	43.79	Death of candidate after time for withdrawal.
43.41	Change or declaration of party affiliation before primary.	43.80	Vacancies in nominations of presidential electors.
		43.81	and 43.82 Repealed by 75 Acts, ch 81, §154.
		43.83	Vacancies in office of U. S. representative.
		43.84	Repealed by 75 Acts, ch 81, §154.

43.85	County convention reconvened.	43.107	State convention.
43.86	and 43.87 Repealed by 75 Acts, ch 81, §154.	43.108	Organization — proxies prohibited.
43.88	Certification of nominations.	43.109	Nominations authorized.
43.89	Repealed by 65 Acts, ch 89, §15.	43.110	Repealed by 75 Acts, ch 81, §154.
43.90	Delegates.	43.111	State party platform, constitution, bylaws and central committee.
43.91	Voter at caucus must be precinct resident.	43.112	Nominations in certain cities.
43.92	Date of caucus published.	43.113	Repealed by 75 Acts, ch 81, §154.
43.93	Place of holding caucus.	43.114	Time of holding special charter city primary.
43.94	Term of office of delegates.	43.115	Nomination papers — number of signers.
43.95	Calling convention to order.	43.116	Ballot vacancies in special charter city elections.
43.96	Proxies prohibited.	43.117	Plurality vote nominates and elects.
43.97	Duties performable by county convention.	43.118	Expense.
43.98	Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.	43.119	and 43.120 Repealed by 2002 Acts, ch 1071, §15.
43.99	Party committee persons.	43.121	Nominations by petition or nonparty organizations.
43.100	Central committee — duties.	43.122	Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.
43.101	County central committee officers.	43.123	Nomination of lieutenant governor.
43.102	District conventions.		
43.103	Duty of county commissioner.		
43.104	Organization.		
43.105	Repealed by 75 Acts, ch 81, §154.		
43.106	Repealed by 74 Acts, ch 1101, §105.		

### 43.1 Primary election construed.

The primary election required by this chapter shall be construed to be an election by the members of various political parties for the purpose of placing in nomination candidates for public office.

[S13, §1087-a2; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §527; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.1]

### 43.2 Definitions.

The term “*political party*” shall mean a party which, at the last preceding general election, cast for its candidate for president of the United States or for governor, as the case may be, at least two percent of the total vote cast for all candidates for that office at that election. It shall be the responsibility of the state commissioner to determine whether any organization claiming to be a political party qualifies as such under the foregoing definition.

A political organization which is not a “political party” within the meaning of this section may nominate candidates and have the names of such candidates placed upon the official ballot by proceeding under chapters 44 and 45.

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, “*book*”, “*list*”, “*record*”, or “*schedule*” kept by a county auditor, assessor, treasurer, recorder, sheriff, or other county officer means the county system as defined in section 445.1.

[S13, §1087-a3; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §528; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.2]

2000 Acts, ch 1148, §1

Nominations by petition or nonparty organizations, §43.121

### 43.3 Offices affected by primary.

Candidates of all political parties for all offices which are filled at a regular biennial election by direct vote of the people shall be nominated at a primary election at the time and in the manner hereinafter directed.

[S13, §1087-a1; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §529; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.3]

Nomination and election of judges, chapter 46

### 43.4 Political party precinct caucuses.

Delegates to county conventions of political parties and party committee members shall be elected at precinct caucuses held not later than the fourth Monday in February of each even-numbered year. The date shall be at least eight days earlier than the scheduled date for any meeting, caucus, or primary which constitutes the first determining stage of the presidential nominating process in any other state, territory, or any other group which has the authority to select delegates in the presidential nomination. The state central committees of the political parties shall set the date for their caucuses. The county chairperson of each political party shall issue the call for the caucuses. The county chairperson shall file with the commissioner the meeting place of each precinct caucus at least seven days prior to the date of holding the caucus.

There shall be selected among those present at a precinct caucus a chairperson and a secretary who shall within seven days certify to the county central committee the names of those elected as party committee members and delegates to the county convention.

When the rules of a political party require the selection and reporting of delegates selected as part of the presidential nominating process, or the rules of a political party require the tabulation and reporting of the number of persons attending the caucus favoring each presidential candidate, it is the duty of a person designated as provided by the rules of that political party to report the results of the precinct caucus as directed by the state central committee of that political party. When the person designated to report the results of the precinct caucus reports the results, representatives of each candidate, if they so choose, may accompany the person as the results are being reported to assure that an accurate report of the proceedings is reported. If ballots are used at the precinct caucus, representatives of each candidate or other persons attending the precinct caucus may observe the tabulation of the results of the balloting.

Within fourteen days after the date of the caucus the county central committee shall certify to the county commissioner the names of those elected as party committee members and delegates to the county convention. The commissioner shall retain precinct caucus records for twenty-two months. In addition, within fourteen days after the date of the precinct caucus, the chairperson of the county central committee shall deliver to the county commissioner all completed voter registration forms received at the caucus.

The central committee of each political party shall notify the delegates and committee members so elected and certified of their election and of the time and place of holding the county convention. Such conventions shall be held either preceding or following the primary election but no later than ten days following the primary election and shall be held on the same day throughout the state.

[S13, §1087-a1; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §530; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.4]

83 Acts, ch 138, §1; 88 Acts, ch 1001, §1; 89 Acts, ch 136, §2; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §4

Failure to report, criminal penalty, §39A.4

**43.5 Applicable statutes.**

The provisions of chapters 39, 39A, 47, 48A, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 57, 58, 59, 61, 62, 68A, and 722 shall apply, so far as applicable, to all primary elections, except as hereinafter provided.

[S13, §1087-a1; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §531; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.5]

94 Acts, ch 1169, §44; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §5

Criminal offenses, §39A.2-39A.5

**43.6 Nomination of U. S. senators, state and county officers.**

Candidates for the office of senator in the Congress of the United States, the offices listed in section 39.9, county supervisor, and the offices listed in section 39.17 shall be nominated in the year preceding the expiration of the term of office of the incumbent.

1. When a vacancy occurs in the office of senator in the Congress of the United States, secretary of state, auditor of state, treasurer of state, secretary of agriculture, or attorney general and section 69.13 requires that the vacancy be filled for the balance of the unexpired term at a general election, candidates for the office shall be nominated in the preceding primary election if the vacancy occurs eighty-nine or more days before the date of that primary election. If the vacancy occurs less than one hundred four days before the date of that primary election, the state commissioner shall accept nomination papers for that office only until five o'clock p.m. on the seventy-fourth day before the primary election, the provisions of section 43.11 notwithstanding. If the vacancy occurs later than eighty-nine days before the date of that primary election, but not less than eighty-nine days before the date of the general election, the nominations shall be made in the manner prescribed by this chapter for filling vacancies in nominations for offices to be voted for at the general election.

2. When a vacancy occurs in the office of county supervisor or any of the offices listed in section 39.17 and more than seventy days remain in the term of office following the next general election, the office shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term at that general election unless the vacancy has been filled by a special election called more than seventy-three days before the primary election. If the vacancy occurs more than seventy-three days before the primary election, political party candidates for that office at the next general election shall be nominated at the primary election. If an appointment to fill the vacancy in office is made eighty-eight or more days before the primary election and a petition requesting a special election has not been received within fourteen days after the appointment is made, candidates for the office shall be nominated at the primary election.

[R60, §674; C73, §26; C97, §30; S13, §1087-c; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §532; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.6]

89 Acts, ch 136, §3; 94 Acts, ch 1180, §2; 97 Acts, ch 170, §2; 2007 Acts, ch 59, §2, 19

Vacancies filled by governor, §69.8(1, 2)

**43.7 Time of holding.**

The primary election by all political parties shall be held at the usual voting places of the several precincts on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June in each even-numbered year.

[S13, §1087-a4; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §533; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.7]

c. Objections filed with the city clerk shall be considered by the mayor and clerk and one member of the council chosen by the council by ballot, and a majority decision shall be final; but if the objection is to the certificate of nomination of either of those city officials, that official shall not pass upon said objection, but that official's place shall be filled by a member of the council against whom no objection exists, chosen as above.

84 Acts, ch 1291, §1; 86 Acts, ch 1155, §1; 89 Acts, ch 136, §11; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §7, 115; 2008 Acts, ch 1032, §201

#### **43.25 Correction of errors.**

The commissioner shall correct any errors or omissions in the names of candidates and any other errors brought to the commissioner's knowledge before the printing of the ballots.

[S13, §1087-a12; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §552; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.25]

**43.26 Ballot — form.** Repealed by 2009 Acts, ch 57, § 96. See § 43.31.

#### **43.27 Printing of ballots.**

The ballots of each political party shall be printed in black ink, on separate sheets of paper, uniform in quality, texture, and size, with the name of the political party printed at the head of said ballots, which ballots shall be prepared by the commissioner in the same manner as for the general election, except as in this chapter provided. The commissioner may print the ballots for each political party using a different color for each party. If colored paper is used, all of the ballots for each separate party shall be uniform in color.

[S13, §1087-a13; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §554; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.27]

2002 Acts, ch 1134, §8, 115

#### **43.28 Names of candidates — arrangement.**

The names of all candidates for offices shall be arranged and printed upon the primary election ballots under the direction of the commissioner. If there are more candidates for nomination by a political party to an office than the number of persons to be elected to that office at the general election, the names of the candidates of that party for that nomination shall be rotated on the primary election ballot by the commissioner in the manner prescribed by section 49.31.

[S13, §1087-a13; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §556, 557; C46, 50, §43.28, 43.29; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.28]

#### **43.29 Form of name on ballot.**

The name of a candidate printed on the ballot shall not include parentheses, quotation marks, or any personal or professional title.

89 Acts, ch 136, §12

#### **43.30 Sample ballots.**

The commissioner shall take from the official printed ballots of each precinct a suitable number of ballots of each political party, and shall write or stamp, in red ink, near the top of each ballot, the words "sample ballot" and shall sign or stamp the commissioner's official signature thereunder. Said ballots shall be

delivered to the precinct election officials, but shall not be voted, received, or counted. Said precinct election officials shall, before the opening of the polls, cause said sample ballots to be posted in and about the polling places.

The commissioner may make sample ballots available to the public. The sample ballots shall be stamped with the words “sample ballot” and a facsimile of the commissioner’s signature. A reasonable fee may be charged for printing costs if a person requests multiple copies of sample ballots.

[S13, §1087-a15; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §558; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.30]

89 Acts, ch 136, §13

#### **43.31 Form of official ballot — implementation by rule.**

The state commissioner shall adopt rules in accordance with chapter 17A to implement sections 43.27 through 43.30, section 43.36, sections 49.30 through 49.41, section 49.57, and any other provision of the law prescribing the form of the official ballot.

2009 Acts, ch 57, §6

#### **43.32 through 43.35 Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, § 401.**

#### **43.36 Australian ballot.**

The Australian ballot system as now used in this state, except as herein modified, shall be used at said primary election. The endorsement of the precinct election officials and the facsimile of the commissioner’s signature shall appear upon the ballots as provided for general elections.

[S13, §1087-a6; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §564; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.36]

Australian ballot system, chapter 49

Endorsement by precinct election officials, §49.82

Signature of commissioner, §49.57

#### **43.37 Number of votes permitted per office.**

The elector shall be permitted to vote for no more candidates for any office than there are persons to be elected to the office. If an elector votes for more persons for any office than the number permitted, the elector’s ballot shall not be counted for that office.

88 Acts, ch 1119, §6

#### **43.38 Voter confined to party ticket.**

The elector shall be allowed to vote for candidates for nomination on the ballot of the party with which the elector is registered as affiliated, and shall receive no other ballot. The voter shall return the ballot, folded, to one of the precinct election officials who shall deposit it in the ballot box.

[S13, §1087-a6; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §566; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.38]

**43.39 Ballot for another party’s candidate.**

If any primary elector write upon the elector’s ticket the name of any person who is a candidate for the same office upon some other party ticket than that upon which the candidate’s name shall be so written, such ballot shall be so counted for such person only as a candidate of the party upon whose ballot the candidate’s name is written, and shall in no case be counted for such person as a candidate upon any other ticket.

[S13, §1087-a6; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §567; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.39]

**43.40 Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, § 401.**

**43.41 Change or declaration of party affiliation before primary.**

Any registered voter who desires to change or declare a political party affiliation may, before the close of registration for the primary election, file a written declaration stating the change of party affiliation with the county commissioner of registration who shall enter a notation of such change on the registration records.

[S13, §1087-a8; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §569; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.41]

94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

**43.42 Change or declaration of party affiliation at polls.**

Any registered voter may change or declare a party affiliation at the polls on election day and shall be entitled to vote at any primary election. Each voter doing so shall indicate the voter’s change or declaration of party affiliation on the voter’s declaration of eligibility affidavit.

Each change or declaration of a registered voter’s party affiliation so received shall be reported by the precinct election officials to the county commissioner of registration who shall enter a notation of the change on the registration records.

[S13, §1087-a8, -a9; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §570, 572; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §43.42; C75, §43.42, 43.44; C77, 79, 81, §43.42]

91 Acts, ch 129, §4; 92 Acts, ch 1163, §12; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

**43.43 Voter’s declaration of eligibility.**

Each person voting at a primary election shall sign a declaration of eligibility which shall be in substantially the following form:

I do solemnly swear or affirm that I am a resident of the ..... precinct, ..... ward or township, city of ....., county of ....., Iowa.

I am a registered voter. I have not voted and will not vote in any other precinct in this election.

I am affiliated with the ..... party. If my current voter registration record indicates another party affiliation or no party affiliation, I swear or affirm that I have in good faith changed my previously declared party affiliation, or declared my party affiliation, and now desire to be a member of the party indicated above.



c. Open the ballot container. Secure all ballots counted by the vote-tabulating device. Sort the remaining ballots by party. Tally all write-in votes and any other ballots not yet counted. Record the results in the tally list.

d. Put all ballots in an envelope or other package and seal it. All members of the board shall sign their names across the seal of the envelope. The seal shall be placed so that the envelope or package cannot be opened without breaking the seal.

[S13, §1087-a17; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §573; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.45]

87 Acts, ch 221, §2; 89 Acts, ch 136, §14; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §9, 115; 2003 Acts, ch 44, §21, 22; 2007 Acts, ch 190, §15, 16; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §7

#### **43.46 Delivering returns.**

The precinct election officials shall deliver all election supplies, by noon of the day after the close of the polls, to the commissioner who shall carefully preserve them and deliver the returns and envelopes containing ballots, in the condition in which received except as is otherwise required by sections 50.20 to 50.22, to the county board of supervisors.

[S13, §1087-a17; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §574; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.46]

#### **43.47 Messenger sent for returns.**

If the returns from any precinct are not delivered as provided in section 43.46, the commissioner shall forthwith send a messenger for the missing returns, and the messenger shall be paid as provided by section 50.47 for such services.

[S13, §1087-a17; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §575; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.47]

#### **43.48 Precinct counts publicly available.**

The commissioner shall make available to the public the precinct counts produced by the voting equipment.

[S13, §1087-a17; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §576; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.48]

89 Acts, ch 136, §15; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §10, 115; 2007 Acts, ch 190, §17

**BLANK**

**43.71 Messenger sent for abstracts.**

If returns of abstracts have not been received by the state canvassing board from all the counties by the time fixed for the state canvass, the state commissioner shall immediately send a messenger after the missing abstracts, and the board may adjourn from time to time until the abstracts are received.

[S13, §1087-a22; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §599; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.71]

**43.72 State returns filed and recorded.**

When the canvass is concluded, the board shall deliver the original abstract returns to the state commissioner, who shall file the same in the state commissioner's office and record the abstracts of the canvass of the state board and certificates attached thereto in the book kept by the state commissioner known as the election book.

[S13, §1087-a23; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §600; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.72]

**43.73 State commissioner to certify nominees.**

Not less than sixty-nine days before the general election the state commissioner shall certify to each commissioner, under separate party headings, the name of each person nominated as shown by the official canvass made by the executive council, or as certified to the state commissioner by the proper persons when any person has been nominated by a convention or by a party committee, or by petition, the office to which the person is nominated, and the order in which federal and state offices, judges, constitutional amendments, and state public measures shall appear on the official ballot.

The state commissioner shall similarly certify to the appropriate commissioner or commissioners at the earliest practicable time the names of nominees for a special election, called under section 69.14, submitted to the state commissioner pursuant to section 43.78, subsection 4.

[C97, §1105; S13, §1087-a23; SS15, §1105; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §601, 602; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §43.73; C75, §43.73, 43.74; C77, 79, 81, §43.73]  
89 Acts, ch 136, §19; 97 Acts, ch 170, §3

**43.74** Repealed by 75 Acts, ch 81, § 154.

**43.75 Tie vote.**

In case of a tie vote resulting in no nomination for any office, the tie shall forthwith be determined by lot by the board of canvassers.

[S13, §1087-a24; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §603; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.75]

**43.76 Withdrawal of nominated candidates.**

1. A candidate nominated in a primary election for any office for which nomination papers are required to be filed with the state commissioner may withdraw as a nominee for that office on or before, but not later than, the eighty-ninth day before the date of the general election by so notifying the state commissioner in writing.

2. A candidate nominated in a primary election for any office for which nomination papers are required to be filed with the commissioner may withdraw as a nominee for that office on or before, but not later than, the seventy-fourth day before the date of the general election by so notifying the commissioner in writing.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, §43.59(2); C77, 79, 81, §43.76]

89 Acts, ch 136, §20

See also §44.9

#### **43.77 What constitutes a ballot vacancy.**

A vacancy on the general election ballot exists when any political party lacks a candidate for an office to be filled at the general election because:

1. No person filed under section 43.11 as a candidate for the party's nomination for that office in the primary election, or all persons who filed under section 43.11 as candidates for the party's nomination for that office in the primary election subsequently withdrew as candidates, were found to lack the requisite qualifications for the office or died before the date of the primary election, and no candidate received a sufficient number of write-in votes to be nominated.

2. The primary election was inconclusive as to that office because no candidate for the party's nomination for that office received the number of votes required by section 43.52, 43.53, or 43.65, whichever is applicable.

3. The person nominated in the primary election as the party's candidate for that office subsequently withdrew as permitted by section 43.76, was found to lack the requisite qualifications for the office, or died, at a time not later than the eighty-ninth day before the date of the general election in the case of an office for which nomination papers must be filed with the state commissioner and not later than the seventy-fourth day before the date of the general election in the case of an office for which nomination papers must be filed with the county commissioner.

4. A vacancy has occurred in the office of senator in the Congress of the United States, secretary of state, auditor of state, treasurer of state, secretary of agriculture, or attorney general, under the circumstances described in section 69.13, less than eighty-nine days before the primary election and not less than eighty-nine days before the general election.

5. A vacancy has occurred in the office of county supervisor or in any of the offices listed in section 39.17 and the term of office has more than seventy days remaining after the date of the next general election and one of the following circumstances applies:

*a.* The vacancy occurred during the period beginning seventy-three days before the primary election and ending on the date of the primary election and no special election was called to fill the vacancy.

*b.* The vacancy occurred after the date of the primary election and more than seventy-three days before the general election.

[S13, §1087-a24–1087-a27; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §611, 624, 628, 633, 636, 637; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §43.84, 43.97, 43.101, 43.106, 43.109, 43.110; C75, §43.84, 43.97, 43.101, 43.109, 43.110; C77, 79, 81, §43.77]

89 Acts, ch 136, §21; 94 Acts, ch 1180, §7, 8; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §8

*i.* A statement that the candidate is aware that the candidate is disqualified from holding office if the candidate has been convicted of a felony or other infamous crime and the candidate's rights have not been restored by the governor or by the president of the United States.

[C97, §1099; C24, §650; C27, 31, 35, §655-a3; C39, §655.03; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §44.3; C75, §44.3, 56.5(4); C77, 79, 81, §44.3; 81 Acts, ch 34, §5, ch 35, §17]

90 Acts, ch 1238, §7; 91 Acts, ch 129, §7; 94 Acts, ch 1023, §78; 94 Acts, ch 1180, §9; 98 Acts, ch 1052, §3; 2001 Acts, ch 158, §8

Additional certification, §44.13

#### **44.4 Nominations and objections — time and place of filing.**

1. Nominations made pursuant to this chapter and chapter 45 which are required to be filed in the office of the state commissioner shall be filed in that office not more than ninety-nine days nor later than 5:00 p.m. on the eighty-first day before the date of the general election to be held in November. Nominations made for a special election called pursuant to section 69.14 shall be filed by 5:00 p.m. not less than twenty-five days before the date of an election called upon at least forty days' notice and not less than fourteen days before the date of an election called upon at least eighteen days' notice. Nominations made for a special election called pursuant to section 69.14A shall be filed by 5:00 p.m. not less than twenty-five days before the date of the election. Nominations made pursuant to this chapter and chapter 45 which are required to be filed in the office of the commissioner shall be filed in that office not more than ninety-two days nor later than 5:00 p.m. on the sixty-ninth day before the date of the general election. Nominations made pursuant to this chapter or chapter 45 for city office shall be filed not more than seventy-two days nor later than 5:00 p.m. on the forty-seventh day before the city election with the city clerk, who shall process them as provided by law.

2. *a.* Objections to the legal sufficiency of a certificate of nomination or nomination petition or to the eligibility of a candidate may be filed by any person who would have the right to vote for a candidate for the office in question. The objections must be filed with the officer with whom the certificate or petition is filed and within the following time:

(1) Those filed with the state commissioner, not less than seventy-four days before the date of the election.

(2) Those filed with the commissioner, not less than sixty-four days before the date of the election.

(3) Those filed with the city clerk, at least forty-two days before the regularly scheduled or special city election. However, for those cities that may be required to hold a primary election, at least sixty-three days before the regularly scheduled or special city election.

(4) In the case of nominations to fill vacancies occurring after the time when an original nomination for an office is required to be filed, objections shall be filed within three days after the filing of the certificate.

*b.* Objections shall be filed no later than 5:00 p.m. on the final date for filing.

[C97, §1103; C24, §654; C27, 31, 35, §655-a4; C39, §655.04; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §44.4]

87 Acts, ch 221, §3; 88 Acts, ch 1119, §8; 88 Acts, ch 1246, §1; 89 Acts, ch 136, §24; 90 Acts, ch 1238, §8; 95 Acts, ch 189, §5; 97 Acts, ch 170, §7; 98 Acts, ch 1123, §2; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §13, 115; 2008 Acts, ch 1032, §201

See §45.4

**44.5 Notice of objections.**

When objections are filed, notice shall immediately be given to the affected candidate. The notice shall be addressed to the candidate's place of residence as given in the certificate of nomination, stating that objections have been made to the certificate. The notice shall include the time and place of the hearing at which the objections will be considered. The hearing shall be held not later than one week after the objection is filed.

[C97, §1103; C24, §654; C27, 31, 35, §655-a5; C39, §655.05; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §44.5]

2009 Acts, ch 57, §9

**44.6 Hearing before state commissioner.**

Objections filed with the state commissioner shall be considered by the secretary of state and auditor of state and attorney general, and a majority decision shall be final; but if the objection is to the certificate of nomination of one or more of the above named officers, said officer or officers so objected to shall not pass upon the same, but their places shall be filled, respectively, by the treasurer of state, the governor, and the secretary of agriculture.

[C97, §1103; C24, §654; C27, 31, 35, §655-a6; C39, §655.06; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §44.6]

**44.7 Hearing before commissioner.**

Objections filed with the commissioner shall be considered by the county auditor, county treasurer, and county attorney, and a majority decision shall be final; but if the objection is to the certificate of nomination of one or more of the above named county officers, the officer or officers objected to shall not pass upon the objection, but their places shall be filled, respectively, by the chairperson of the board of supervisors, the sheriff, and the county recorder.

[C97, §1103; C24, §654; C27, 31, 35, §655-a7; C39, §655.07; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §44.7]

83 Acts, ch 186, §10016, 10201

**44.8 Hearing before mayor.**

Objections filed with the city clerk shall be considered by the mayor and clerk and one member of the council chosen by the council by ballot, and a majority decision shall be final; but if the objection is to the certificate of nomination of either of those city officials, that official shall not pass upon said objection, but the official's place shall be filled by a member of the council against whom no such objection exists, chosen as above provided.

The hearing shall be held within twenty-four hours of the receipt of the objection if a primary election must be held for the office sought by the candidate against whom the objection has been filed.

[C97, §1103; C24, §654; C27, 31, 35, §655-a8; C39, §655.08; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §44.8]

88 Acts, ch 1119, §9

**44.9 Withdrawals.**

Any candidate named under this chapter may withdraw the candidate's nomination by a written request filed as follows:

1. In the office of the state commissioner, at least seventy-four days before the date of the election.

## CHAPTER 45

## NOMINATIONS BY PETITION

See also definitions in §39.3

45.1	Nominations by petition.	45.4	Filing — presumption — withdrawals — objections.
45.2	Adding name by petition.	45.5	Form of nomination papers.
45.3	Affidavit of candidacy.	45.6	Requirements in signing.

**45.1 Nominations by petition.**

1. Nominations for candidates for president and vice president, governor and lieutenant governor, and for other statewide elected offices may be made by nomination petitions signed by not less than one thousand five hundred eligible electors residing in not less than ten counties of the state.

2. Nominations for candidates for a representative in the United States house of representatives may be made by nomination petitions signed by not less than the number of eligible electors equal to the number of signatures required in subsection 1 divided by the number of congressional districts. Signers of the petition shall be eligible electors who are residents of the congressional district.

3. Nominations for candidates for the state senate may be made by nomination petitions signed by not less than one hundred eligible electors who are residents of the senate district.

4. Nominations for candidates for the state house of representatives may be made by nomination petitions signed by not less than fifty eligible electors who are residents of the representative district.

5. Nominations for candidates for offices filled by the voters of a whole county may be made by nomination petitions signed by eligible electors who are residents of the county equal in number to at least one percent of the number of registered voters in the county on July 1 in the year preceding the year in which the office will appear on the ballot, or by at least two hundred fifty eligible electors who are residents of the county, whichever is less.

6. Nominations for candidates for the office of county supervisor elected by the voters of a supervisor district may be made by nomination petitions signed by eligible electors who are residents of the supervisor district equal in number to at least one percent of the number of registered voters in the supervisor district on July 1 in the year preceding the year in which the office will appear on the ballot, or by at least one hundred fifty eligible electors who are residents of the supervisor district, whichever is less.

7. *a.* Nomination papers for the offices of president and vice president shall include the names of the candidates for both offices on each page of the petition. A certificate listing the names of the candidates for presidential electors, one from each congressional district and two from the state at large, shall be filed in the state commissioner's office at the same time the nomination papers are filed.

*b.* Nomination papers for the offices of governor and lieutenant governor shall include the names of candidates for both offices on each page of the petition. Nomination papers for other statewide elected offices and all other offices shall include the name of the candidate on each page of the petition.

8. Nominations for candidates for elective offices in cities where the council has adopted nominations under this chapter may be submitted as follows:

a. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 9, in cities having a population of three thousand five hundred or greater according to the most recent federal decennial census, nominations may be made by nomination papers signed by not less than twenty-five eligible electors who are residents of the city or ward.

b. In cities having a population of one hundred or greater, but less than three thousand five hundred, according to the most recent federal decennial census, nominations may be made by nomination papers signed by not less than ten eligible electors who are residents of the city or ward.

c. In cities having a population less than one hundred according to the most recent federal decennial census, nominations may be made by nomination papers signed by not less than five eligible electors who are residents of the city.

9. Nominations for candidates, other than partisan candidates, for elective offices in special charter cities subject to section 43.112 may be submitted as follows:

a. For the office of mayor and alderman at large, nominations may be made by nomination papers signed by eligible electors residing in the city equal in number to at least two percent of the total vote received by all candidates for mayor at the last preceding city election.

b. For the office of ward alderman, nominations may be made by nomination papers signed by eligible electors residing in the ward equal in number to at least two percent of the total vote received by all candidates for ward alderman in that ward at the last preceding city election.

[C97, §1100; C24, §651; C27, 31, 35, §655-a17; C39, §655.17; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §45.1; 81 Acts, ch 34, §7]

86 Acts, ch 1224, §7; 88 Acts, ch 1119, §10, 11; 89 Acts, ch 136, §27; 93 Acts, ch 143, §8; 94 Acts, ch 1180, §10; 2007 Acts, ch 25, §2; 2008 Acts, ch 1032, §201; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §10

#### **45.2 Adding name by petition.**

The name of a candidate placed upon the ballot by any other method than by petition shall not be added by petition for the same office in the same election.

[C97, §1100; C24, §651; C27, 31, 35, §655-a18; C39, §655.18; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §45.2]

Other methods, chapters 43, 44

#### **45.3 Affidavit of candidacy.**

Each candidate shall complete and file a signed, notarized affidavit of candidacy. The affidavit shall be filed at the same time as the nomination petition. The affidavit shall be in the form prescribed by the secretary of state and shall include the following information:

1. The candidate's name in the form the candidate wants it to appear on the ballot.

2. The candidate's home address.

3. The name of the county in which the candidate resides.

4. The name of the political organization by which the candidate was nominated, if any.

5. The office sought by the candidate, and the district the candidate seeks to represent, if any.

6. A declaration that if the candidate is elected the candidate will qualify by taking the oath of office.

## CHAPTER 46

## NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF JUDGES

46.1	Appointment of state judicial nominating commissioners.	46.10	Nomination of elective nominating commissioners.
46.2	Election of state judicial nominating commissioners.	46.11	Certification of commissioners.
46.2A	Special appointment or election of state judicial nominating commission members.	46.12	Notification of vacancy and resignation.
46.3	Appointment of district judicial nominating commissioners.	46.13	Notice of meetings.
46.4	Election of district judicial nominating commissioners.	46.14	Nomination.
46.5	Vacancies.	46.14A	Court of appeals — nominees.
46.5A	Judicial nominating commission expenses.	46.15	Appointments to be from nominees.
46.6	Equal seniority.	46.16	Terms of judges.
46.7	Eligibility to vote.	46.17	Time of judicial election.
46.8	Certified list.	46.18	Eligibility of voters.
46.9	Conduct of elections.	46.19	Election registers.
46.9A	Notice preceding nomination of elective nominating commissioners.	46.20	Declaration of candidacy.
		46.21	Conduct of elections.
		46.22	Voting.
		46.23	General election and absent voter laws.
		46.24	Results of election.
		46.25	Eligible elector defined.

**46.1 Appointment of state judicial nominating commissioners.**

The governor shall appoint, subject to confirmation by the senate, one eligible elector of each congressional district to the state judicial nominating commission for a six-year term beginning and ending as provided in section 69.19. The terms of no more than three nor less than two of the members shall expire within the same two-year period. No more than a simple majority of the members appointed shall be of the same gender.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §46.1]

87 Acts, ch 218, §1

**46.2 Election of state judicial nominating commissioners.**

The resident members of the bar of each congressional district shall elect one eligible elector of the district to the state judicial nominating commission for a six-year term beginning July 1. The terms of no more than three nor less than two of the members shall expire within the same two-year period, the expiration dates being governed by the expiration dates of the terms of the original appointive members. The members of the bar of the respective congressional districts shall in January, immediately preceding the expiration of the term of a member of the commission, elect a successor for a like term. For the first elective term open on or after July 1, 1987, in the odd-numbered districts the elected member shall be a woman and in the even-numbered districts the elected member shall be a man. Thereafter, the districts shall alternate between women and men elected members.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §46.2]

87 Acts, ch 218, §2

**46.2A Special appointment or election of state judicial nominating commission members.**

1. As used in this section, “*congressional district*” means those districts established following the 2010 federal decennial census and described in chapter 40.

2. Notwithstanding sections 46.1 and 46.2, the terms of the appointed and elected members of the state judicial nominating commission serving on December 31, 2012, shall expire on that date.

3. The terms of newly appointed and elected members of the state judicial nominating commission shall commence on January 1, 2013, based upon the number of congressional districts as enacted pursuant to chapter 42.

4. The initial term of the appointed members shall be as follows:

a. In the congressional district described as the first district, there shall be one member with a term of two years and one member with a term of six years.

b. In the congressional district described as the second district, there shall be one member with a term of two years and one member with a term of four years.

c. In the congressional district described as the third district, there shall be one member with a term of four years and one member with a term of six years.

d. In the congressional district described as the fourth district, there shall be one member with a term of two years and one member with a term of four years.

5. The initial term of the elected members shall be as follows:

a. In the congressional district described as the first district, there shall be one member with a term of two years and one member with a term of four years.

b. In the congressional district described as the second district, there shall be one member with a term of four years and one member with a term of six years.

c. In the congressional district described as the third district, there shall be one member with a term of two years and one member with a term of six years.

d. In the congressional district described as the fourth district, there shall be one member with a term of four years and one member with a term of six years.

6. The appointed and elected members from each congressional district shall be gender balanced as provided in section 69.16A.

7. After the initial term is served pursuant to this section, the appointed members shall be appointed to six-year terms as provided in section 46.1, and the elected members shall be elected to six-year terms as provided in section 46.2.

8. If the number of congressional districts established following the 2010 federal decennial census and described in chapter 40 is not equal to four, then the procedures set out in this section are void and this section is repealed effective June 30, 2012.

2008 Acts, ch 1049, §1; 2009 Acts, ch 133, §13

**46.3 Appointment of district judicial nominating commissioners.**

The governor shall appoint five eligible electors of each judicial election district to the district judicial nominating commission. Appointments shall be to staggered terms of six years each and shall be made in the month of January for terms commencing February 1 of even-numbered years. No more than a simple majority of the commissioners appointed shall be of the same gender.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §46.3]

87 Acts, ch 218, §3

If a vacancy occurs in the office of chairperson of a judicial nominating commission, or in the absence of the chairperson, the members of the particular commission shall elect a temporary chairperson from their own number.

When a vacancy in an office of an elective judicial nominating commissioner occurs, the clerk of the supreme court shall cause to be mailed to each member of the bar whose name appears on the certified list prepared pursuant to section 46.8 for the district or districts affected, a notice stating the existence of the vacancy, the requirements for eligibility, and the manner in which the vacancy will be filled. Other items may be included in the same mailing if they are on sheets separate from the notice. The election of a district judicial nominating commissioner or the close of nominations for a state judicial nominating commissioner shall not occur until thirty days after the mailing of the notice.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §46.5]

83 Acts, ch 186, §10017, 10201; 87 Acts, ch 218, §5

For future amendment to this section effective February 10, 2010, see 2009 Acts, ch 179, §164, 171

#### **46.5A Judicial nominating commission expenses.**

Members of the state judicial nominating commission and the district judicial nominating commissions are entitled to be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties as commissioners for each day spent attending commission meetings or training sessions called by the chairperson. Expenses shall be paid from funds appropriated to the judicial branch for this purpose.

88 Acts, ch 1094, §1; 98 Acts, ch 1047, §13

#### **46.6 Equal seniority.**

If the judges of longest service (other than the chief justice) of the supreme court or of the district court in a district are of equal service, the eldest of such judges shall be chairperson of the particular judicial nominating commission.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §46.6]

#### **46.7 Eligibility to vote.**

To be eligible to vote in elections of judicial nominating commissioners, a member of the bar must be eligible to practice and must be a resident of the state of Iowa and of the appropriate congressional district or judicial election district as shown by the member's most recent filing with the supreme court for the purposes of showing compliance with the court's continuing legal education requirements, or for members of the bar eligible to practice who are not required to file such compliance, any paper on file by July 1 with the clerk of the supreme court, for the purpose of establishing eligibility to vote under this section, which the court determines to show the requisite residency requirements. A judge who has been admitted to the bar of the state of Iowa shall be considered a member of the bar.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §46.7]

83 Acts, ch 186, §10018, 10201; 86 Acts, ch 1119, §1; 92 Acts, ch 1116, §1

For future amendment to this section effective February 10, 2010, see 2009 Acts, ch 179, §165, 171

**46.8 Certified list.**

On July 15 of each year the clerk of the supreme court shall certify a list of the names, addresses, and years of admission of members of the bar who are eligible to vote for state and district judicial nominating commissioners. The clerk of the supreme court shall provide a copy of the list of the members for a county to the clerk of the district court for that county.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §46.8]

83 Acts, ch 186, §10019, 10201; 86 Acts, ch 1119, §2

For future amendment to this section effective February 10, 2010, see 2009 Acts, ch 179, §166, 171

**46.9 Conduct of elections.**

When an election of judicial nominating commissioners is to be held, the clerk of the supreme court shall cause ballots to be mailed in accordance with the current certified list of resident members of the bar to such members of the proper districts, substantially as follows:

Iowa State (or Iowa ..... Judicial District)  
Judicial Nominating Commission

**BALLOT**

To be cast by the resident members of the bar of the .....  
Congressional (or Judicial) District of Iowa.

Vote for (state number) for Iowa State (or Iowa ..... Judicial District)  
judicial nominating commissioner(s) for term commencing .....

- CANDIDATE'S NAME
- CANDIDATE'S NAME
- .....
- .....

To be counted, this ballot must be completed and mailed or delivered to Clerk of the Supreme Court of Iowa, Des Moines, Iowa, not later than January 31, ..... (year) (or the appropriate date under section 46.5 in case of an election to fill a vacancy).

**DESTROY BALLOT IF NOT USED**

The elector receiving the most votes shall be elected. When more than one commissioner is to be elected, the electors receiving the most votes shall be elected, in the same number as the offices to be filled.

The ballot must be completed and mailed or delivered to the clerk of the supreme court prior to expiration of the period within which the election must be held.

The ballots shall be counted under the direction of the clerk of the supreme court.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §46.9]

83 Acts, ch 186, §10020, 10201; 2000 Acts, ch 1058, §58

For future amendment to this section effective February 10, 2010, see 2009 Acts, ch 179, §167, 171

**46.9A Notice preceding nomination of elective nominating commissioners.**

At least sixty days prior to the expiration of the term of an elective state or district judicial nominating commissioner, the clerk of the supreme court shall cause to be mailed to each member of the bar whose name appears on the certified list prepared pursuant to section 46.8 for the district or districts affected, a notice stating the date the term of office will expire, the requirements for eligibility to the office for the succeeding term, and the procedure for filing nominating petitions, including the last date for filing. Other items may be included in the same mailing if they are on sheets separate from the notice.

87 Acts, ch 218, §6

For future amendment to this section effective February 10, 2010, see 2009 Acts, ch 179, §168, 171

**46.10 Nomination of elective nominating commissioners.**

In order to have an eligible elector's name printed on the ballot for state or district judicial nominating commissioner, the eligible elector must file in the office of the clerk of the supreme court at least thirty days prior to expiration of the period within which the election must be held a nominating petition signed by at least fifty resident members of the bar of the congressional district in case of a candidate for state judicial nominating commissioner, or at least ten resident members of the bar of the judicial district in case of a candidate for district judicial nominating commissioner. No member of the bar may sign more nominating petitions for state or district judicial nominating commissioner than there are such commissioners to be elected.

Ballots for state and district judicial nominating commissioners shall contain blank lines equal to the number of such commissioners to be elected, where names may be written in.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §46.10]

For future amendment to this section effective February 10, 2010, see 2009 Acts, ch 179, §169, 171

**46.11 Certification of commissioners.**

The governor and the clerk of the supreme court respectively shall promptly certify the names and addresses of appointive and elective judicial nominating commissioners to the state commissioner of elections and the chairperson of the respective nominating commissions.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §46.11]

For future amendment to this section effective February 10, 2010, see 2009 Acts, ch 179, §170, 171

**46.12 Notification of vacancy and resignation.**

When a vacancy occurs or will occur within one hundred twenty days in the supreme court, the court of appeals, or district court, the state commissioner of elections shall forthwith so notify the chairperson of the proper judicial nominating commission. The chairperson shall call a meeting of the commission within ten days after such notice; if the chairperson fails to do so, the chief justice shall call such meeting.

When a judge of the supreme court, court of appeals, or district court resigns, the judge shall submit a copy of the resignation to the state commissioner of elections at the time the judge submits the resignation to the governor; and when a judge of the supreme court, court of appeals, or district court dies, the clerk of district court of the county of the judge's residence shall in writing forthwith notify the state commissioner of elections of such fact.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §46.12]  
89 Acts, ch 18, §1; 2003 Acts, ch 151, §1, 64

Option to delay for up to 180 days, for budgetary reasons, sending notification of vacancy in the supreme court, court of appeals, or district court to the proper judicial nominating commission for the period beginning March 16, 2009, and ending June 30, 2010; 2009 Acts, ch 170, §54, 55; 2009 Acts, ch 179, §172, 173

#### **46.13 Notice of meetings.**

The chairperson of each judicial nominating commission shall give the members of the commission at least five days' written notice by mail of the time and place of every meeting, except as to members who execute written waivers of notice at or before the meeting or unless the commission at its next previous meeting designated the time and place of the meeting.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §46.13]

#### **46.14 Nomination.**

1. Each judicial nominating commission shall carefully consider the individuals available for judge, and within sixty days after receiving notice of a vacancy shall certify to the governor and the chief justice the proper number of nominees, in alphabetical order. Such nominees shall be chosen by the affirmative vote of a majority of the full statutory number of commissioners upon the basis of their qualifications and without regard to political affiliation. Nominees shall be members of the bar of Iowa, shall be residents of the state or district of the court to which they are nominated, and shall be of such age that they will be able to serve an initial and one regular term of office to which they are nominated before reaching the age of seventy-two years. Nominees for district judge shall file a certified application form, to be provided by the supreme court, with the chairperson of the district judicial nominating commission. Absence of a commissioner or vacancy upon the commission shall not invalidate a nomination. The chairperson of the commission shall promptly certify the names of the nominees, in alphabetical order, to the governor and the chief justice.

2. A commissioner shall not be eligible for nomination by the commission during the term for which the commissioner was elected or appointed to that commission. A commissioner shall not be eligible to vote for the nomination of a family member, current law partner, or current business partner. For purposes of this subsection, "*family member*" means a spouse, son, daughter, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, first cousin, nephew, niece, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, father, mother, stepfather, stepmother, stepson, stepdaughter, stepbrother, stepsister, half brother, or half sister.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §46.14]  
89 Acts, ch 212, §1; 2003 Acts, ch 151, §2

#### **46.14A Court of appeals — nominees.**

Vacancies in the court of appeals shall be filled by appointment by the governor from a list of nominees submitted by the state judicial nominating commission. Three nominees shall be submitted for each vacancy. Nominees to the court of appeals shall have the qualifications prescribed for nominees to the supreme court.

2007 Acts, ch 86, §1

STATE OF IOWA  
JUDICIAL BALLOT  
(Date)

VOTE ON ALL NAMES BY PLACING AN X IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX AFTER EACH NAME.

SUPREME COURT

Shall the following judges of the Supreme Court be retained in office?

CANDIDATE'S NAME            YES     NO   
CANDIDATE'S NAME            YES     NO

COURT OF APPEALS

Shall the following judges of the Court of Appeals be retained in office?

CANDIDATE'S NAME            YES     NO   
CANDIDATE'S NAME            YES     NO

DISTRICT COURT

Shall the following judge, associate judge, associate juvenile judge, or associate probate judge of the District Court be retained in office?

CANDIDATE'S NAME            YES     NO

Shall the following clerk of the District Court be retained in office?

CANDIDATE'S NAME            YES     NO

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §46.21]  
83 Acts, ch 186, §10024, 10201; 89 Acts, ch 136, §30; 99 Acts, ch 93, §3; 2004 Acts, ch 1083, §2, 37  
Voting mark generally, see §49.92

**46.22 Voting.**

Voting at judicial elections shall be by separate paper ballot or optical scan ballot in the space provided for public measures. If separate paper ballots are used, the election judges shall offer a ballot to each voter. If optical scan ballots are used, either a separate ballot or a distinct heading may be used to distinguish the judicial ballot. Separate ballot boxes for the general election ballots and the judicial election ballots are not required. The general election ballot and the judicial election ballot may be voted in the same voting booth.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §46.22]  
90 Acts, ch 1238, §10; 2007 Acts, ch 190, §18; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §11

**46.23 General election and absent voter laws.**

So far as applicable, general election and absent voter laws shall apply to judicial elections. An application for an absent voter ballot for a general election shall also constitute an application for an absent voter ballot for a judicial election to be held at the same time, and the ballots shall be mailed or delivered to the voter together. The sealed envelope transmitted by the absent voter to the county commissioner of elections containing the absent voter general election ballot may also contain the judicial election ballot.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §46.23]

**46.24 Results of election.**

A judge of the supreme court, court of appeals, or district court including a district associate judge, full-time associate juvenile judge, or full-time associate probate judge, or a clerk of the district court must receive more affirmative than negative votes to be retained in office. When the poll is closed, the election judges shall publicly canvass the vote forthwith. The board of supervisors shall canvass the returns on the Monday or Tuesday after the election, and shall promptly certify the number of affirmative and negative votes on each judge or clerk to the state commissioner of elections.

The state board of canvassers shall, at the time of canvassing the vote cast at a general election, open and canvass all of the returns for the judicial election. Each judge of the supreme court, court of appeals, or district court including a district associate judge, full-time associate juvenile judge, or full-time associate probate judge, or a clerk of the district court who has received more affirmative than negative votes shall receive from the state board of canvassers an appropriate certificate so stating.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §46.24]

83 Acts, ch 186, §10025, 10201; 90 Acts, ch 1238, §11; 99 Acts, ch 93, §4; 2000 Acts, ch 1154, §8

**46.25 Eligible elector defined.**

As used in this chapter, the term "*eligible elector*" has the meaning assigned that term by section 39.3.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §46.25]

CHAPTER 47

ELECTION COMMISSIONERS

Chapter applicable to primary elections, §43.5  
 See also definitions in §39.3

47.1	State commissioner of elections.	47.7	State registrar of voters.
47.2	County commissioner of elections.	47.8	Voter registration commission — composition — duties.
47.3	Election expenses.		
47.4	Election filing deadlines.	47.9	Voting machine reimbursement fund. Repealed by 2008 Acts, ch 1176, §8, 10.
47.5	Purchasing by competitive bidding.		
47.6	Election dates — conflicts — public measures.	47.10	Optical scan voting system fund.

**47.1 State commissioner of elections.**

1. The secretary of state is designated as the state commissioner of elections and shall supervise the activities of the county commissioners of elections. There is established within the office of the secretary of state a division of elections which shall be under the direction of the state commissioner of elections. The state commissioner of elections may appoint a person to be in charge of the division of elections who shall perform the duties assigned by the state commissioner of elections. The state commissioner of elections shall prescribe uniform election practices and procedures, shall prescribe the necessary forms required for the conduct of elections, shall assign a number to each proposed constitutional amendment and statewide public measure for identification purposes, and shall adopt rules, pursuant to chapter 17A, to carry out this section.

2. The state commissioner of elections may exercise emergency powers over any election being held in a district in which either a natural or other disaster or extremely inclement weather has occurred. The state commissioner of elections may also exercise emergency powers during an armed conflict involving United States armed forces, or mobilization of those forces, or if an election contest court finds that there were errors in the conduct of an election making it impossible to determine the result.

3. The secretary of state is designated the chief state election official and is responsible for coordination of state responsibilities under the federal National Voter Registration Act of 1993.

4. The state commissioner shall adopt rules describing the emergency powers and the situations in which the powers will be exercised.

5. The state commissioner shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A, for the implementation of uniform and nondiscriminatory administrative complaint procedures for resolution of grievances relating to violations of Title III of Pub. L. No. 107-252. In complaint proceedings in which all of the respondents are local election officials, the presiding officer shall be the state commissioner of elections. In complaint proceedings in which one of the respondents is the state commissioner of elections, the presiding officer shall be a panel consisting of all members of the state voter registration commission appointed pursuant to section 47.8, except the state commissioner of elections or the state commissioner's designee.

[C71, §49A.6; C73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §47.1; 81 Acts, ch 34, §8]

91 Acts, ch 129, §10; 93 Acts, ch 143, §9; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §45; 2004 Acts, ch 1083, §3,

### **47.2 County commissioner of elections.**

1. The county auditor of each county is designated as the county commissioner of elections in each county. The county commissioner of elections shall conduct voter registration pursuant to chapter 48A and conduct all elections within the county.

2. When an election is to be held as required by law or is called by a political subdivision of the state and the political subdivision is located in more than one county, the county commissioner of elections of the county having the greatest taxable base within the political subdivision shall conduct that election. The county commissioners of elections of the other counties in which the political subdivision is located shall cooperate with the county commissioner of elections who is conducting the election.

3. The commissioner may designate as a deputy county commissioner of elections any officer of a political subdivision who is required by law to accept nomination papers filed by candidates for office in that political subdivision, and when so designated that person shall assist the commissioner in administering elections conducted by the commissioner for that subdivision. The designation of a person as a deputy commissioner of elections pursuant to this section, once made, shall continue in effect until the designation is withdrawn by the commissioner.

4. The commissioner shall assign each local public measure a letter for identification purposes. The public measure on the ballot shall be identified by the letter.

*a.* The county commissioner who is responsible under subsection 2 for conducting the elections held for a political subdivision which lies in more than one county shall assign the letter to the public measure.

*b.* The county commissioners of elections of the other counties in which the political subdivision is located shall not assign the same letter to a local public measure on the ballot in their counties during the same election.

5. The office of county auditor or county commissioner of elections in each county shall be open for at least eight hours on the Saturday preceding a general election, primary election, or special election called by the governor for the purpose of receiving absentee ballots and conducting other official business relating to the election.

6. On the final date for filing nomination papers in the commissioner's office the office shall be open until the time for receiving nomination papers has passed.

[C73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §47.2; 81 Acts, ch 34, §9]

84 Acts, ch 1291, §3; 89 Acts, ch 136, §31; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §46; 2008 Acts, ch 1032, §201

### **47.3 Election expenses.**

1. The costs of conducting a special election called by the governor, general election, and the primary election held prior to the general election shall be paid by the county.

2. The cost of conducting other elections shall be paid by the political subdivision for which the election is held. The costs shall include but not be limited to the printing of the ballots and the election register, publication of notices, printing of declaration of eligibility affidavits, compensation for precinct election boards, canvass materials, and the preparation and installation of voting equipment. The county commissioner of elections shall certify to the county board of supervisors a statement of cost for an election. The cost shall be assessed by the county board of supervisors against the political subdivision for which the election was held.

3. *a.* Costs of registration and administrative and clerical costs shall not be charged as a part of the election costs.

*b.* If automatic tabulating equipment is used in any election, the county commissioner of elections shall not charge any political subdivision of the state a rental fee for the use of any automatic tabulating equipment.

4. The cost of maintenance of voter registration records and of preparation of election registers and any other voter registration lists required by the commissioner in the discharge of the duties of that office shall be paid by the county. Administrative and clerical costs incurred by the registrar in discharging the duties of that office shall be paid by the state.

[C97, §1129; S13, §1129, 2754; SS15, §1087-a5; C24, §560, 835, 4203; C27, §560, 718-b18, 4203; C31, 35, §560, 718-b18, 4216-c15; C39, §560, 718.18, 4216.15; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, §43.32, 48.18, 49.118, 277.15; C73, §43.32, 47.3, 277.15; C75, 77, 79, 81, §47.3]

2009 Acts, ch 57, §12

For compensation of precinct election officials, see §49.20

#### **47.4 Election filing deadlines.**

If the deadline for a filing pertaining to an election falls on a day that the state or county commissioner's office is closed for business, the deadline shall be extended to the next day that the office of state commissioner or county commissioner is open for business to receive the filing. This section does not apply to the deadline for voter registration under section 48A.9, subsection 2.

97 Acts, ch 170, §10

#### **47.5 Purchasing by competitive bidding.**

1. Except for legal services and printing of ballots, the commissioner shall take bids for goods and services which are needed in connection with registration of voters or preparation for or administration of elections and which will be performed or provided by persons who are not employees of the commissioner under the following circumstances:

*a.* In any case where it is proposed to purchase data processing services. The commissioner shall give the registrar written notice in advance on each occasion when it is proposed to have data processing services, necessary in connection with the administration of elections, performed by any person other than the registrar or an employee of the county. Such notice shall be made at least thirty days prior to publication of the specifications.

*b.* In all other cases, where the cost of the goods or services to be purchased will exceed one thousand dollars.

2. When it is proposed to purchase any goods or services, other than data processing services, in connection with administration of elections, the commissioner shall publish notice to bidders, including specifications regarding the goods or services to be purchased or a description of the nature and object of the services to be retained, in a newspaper of general circulation in the county not less than fifteen days before the final date for submission of bids. When competitive bidding procedures are used, the purchase of goods or services shall be made from the lowest responsible bidder which meets the specifications or description of the services needed or the commissioner may reject all bids and readvertise. In determining the lowest responsible bidder, various factors may be considered, including but not limited to the past performance of the bidder relative to quality of product or service, the past experience of the purchaser in relation to the product or service, the relative quality of products or services, the proposed terms of delivery and the best interest of the county.

3. The procedure for purchasing data processing services in connection with administration of elections is the same as prescribed in subsection 2, except that the required copy of the bid specifications shall be filed with the registrar rather than the state commissioner. The specifications for data processing contracts relative to voter registration records shall be specified by the registration commission. The registrar shall, not later than the final date for submission of bids, inform the commissioner in writing whether the department of administrative services data processing facilities are currently capable of furnishing the services the county proposes to purchase, and if so the cost to the county of so obtaining the services as determined in accordance with the standard charges adopted by the registration commission. The commissioner, with approval of the board of supervisors, may reject all bids and enter into an arrangement with the registrar for the services to be furnished by the state. The commissioner may recommend and the board of supervisors may approve purchasing the needed services from the lowest responsible bidder; however, if the needed services could be obtained through the registrar at a lower cost, the board shall publish notice twice in a newspaper of general circulation in the county of its intent to accept such bid and of the difference in the amount of the bid and the cost of purchasing the needed services from the department of administrative services data processing facilities through the registrar. Each contract for the furnishing of data processing services necessary in connection with the administration of elections, by any person other than the registrar or an employee of the county, shall be executed with the contractor by the board of supervisors of the county purchasing the services, but only after the contract has been reviewed and approved by the registration commission. The contract shall be of not more than one year's duration. Each county exercising the option to purchase such data processing services from a provider other than the registrar shall provide the registrar, at the county's expense, original and updated voter registration lists in a form and at times prescribed by rules adopted by the registration commission.

4. Any election or registration data or records which may be in the possession of a contractor shall remain the property of the commissioner. Contracts with a private person relating to the maintenance and use of voter registration data, which were properly entered into in compliance with this section and with all other laws relating to bidding on such contracts, shall remain in force only until the most recently negotiated termination date of that contract. A new contract with the same provider may be entered into in accordance with subsection 3.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §47.5]

86 Acts, ch 1245, §312; 95 Acts, ch 103, §1, 2; 97 Acts, ch 170, §11, 12; 2003 Acts, ch 145, §286

#### **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 thirty-two 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 one of the elections would require use of precinct boundaries which differ from those to be used for the other election, or 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

#### **47.7 State registrar of voters.**

1. The state commissioner of elections is designated the state registrar of voters, and shall regulate the preparation, preservation, and maintenance of voter registration records, the preparation of precinct election registers for all elections administered by the commissioner of any county, and the preparation of other data on voter registration and participation in elections which is requested and purchased at actual cost of preparation and production by a political party or any resident of this state. The registrar shall maintain a log, which is a public record, showing all lists and reports which have been requested or generated or which are capable of being generated by existing programs of the data processing services of the registrar. In the execution of the duties provided by this chapter, the state registrar of voters shall provide the maximum public access to the electoral process permitted by law.

2. *a.* On or before January 1, 2006, the state registrar of voters shall implement in a uniform and nondiscriminatory manner, a single, uniform, official, centralized, interactive computerized statewide voter registration file defined, maintained, and administered at the state level that contains the name and registration information of every legally registered voter in the state and assigns a unique identifier to each legally registered voter in the state. The state voter registration system shall be coordinated with other agency databases within the state, including, but not limited to, state department of transportation driver's license records, judicial records of convicted felons and persons declared incompetent to vote, and Iowa department of public health records of deceased persons.

*b.* On or after January 1, 2007, a county shall not establish or maintain a voter registration system separate from the state voter registration system. Each county shall provide to the state registrar the names, voter registration information, and voting history of each registered voter in the county in the form required by the state registrar.

*c.* A state or local election official may obtain immediate electronic access to the information contained in the computerized voter registration file. All voter registration information obtained by a local election official shall be electronically entered into the computerized voter registration file on an expedited basis at the time the information is provided to the local election official. The state registrar shall provide such support as may be required to enable local election officials to electronically enter the information into the computerized voter registration file on an expedited basis. The list generated from the computerized file shall serve as the official voter registration list for the conduct of all elections for federal office in the state.

*d.* The state registrar shall prescribe by rule the procedures for access to the state voter registration file, security requirements, and access protocols for adding, changing, or deleting information from the state voter registration file.

[C77, 79, 81, §47.7; 81 Acts, ch 34, §10]

83 Acts, ch 176, §1, 10; 86 Acts, ch 1245, §313; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §47; 98 Acts, ch 1217, §34; 2004 Acts, ch 1083, §4, 37; 2006 Acts, ch 1003, §1, 2

#### **47.8 Voter registration commission — composition — duties.**

1. A state voter registration commission is established which shall meet at least quarterly to make and review policy, adopt rules, and establish procedures to be followed by the registrar in discharging the duties of that office, and to promote interagency cooperation and planning.



SUBCHAPTER I  
GENERAL PROVISIONS

**48A.1 Statement of intent.**

It is the intent of the general assembly to facilitate the registration of eligible residents of this state through the widespread availability of voter registration services. This chapter and other statutes relating to voter registration are to be liberally construed toward this end.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §1

**48A.2 Definitions.**

The definitions established by this section and section 39.3 shall apply wherever the terms so defined appear in this chapter, unless the context in which any such term is used clearly requires otherwise.

1. “*Commissioner of registration*” means the county commissioner of elections as defined in section 47.2.

2. “*Homeless person*” means a person who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and who has a primary nighttime residence that is one of the following:

a. A supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations.

b. An institution that provides a temporary residence for persons intended to be institutionalized.

c. A public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

3. “*Person who is incompetent to vote*” means a person described in section 222.2, subsection 5, who has been found to lack the mental capacity to vote in a proceeding held pursuant to section 222.31 or 633.556.

4. “*Voter registration agency*” means an agency designated to conduct voter registration under section 48A.19. Offices of the office of driver services of the state department of transportation are not voter registration agencies.

5. “*Voter registration form*” means an application to register to vote which must be completed by or on behalf of any person registering to vote. The voter registration form may also be used to make changes to an existing voter registration record.

6. “*Voter registration list*” means a compilation of voter registration records produced, upon request, from the electronic voter registration file or by viewing, upon request, the original, completed voter registration applications and forms.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §2; 96 Acts, ch 1129, §14; 98 Acts, ch 1185, §1; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §17, 115; 2007 Acts, ch 59, §39, 43; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §14

**48A.3 Commissioner of registration.**

The county commissioner of elections is designated the commissioner of registration for the county, and may appoint deputies and assistants, subject to the approval of the county board of supervisors, necessary to carry out the commissioner’s responsibilities under this chapter and under rules of the state voter registration commission and the state registrar of voters.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §3

**48A.4 Qualification of officers.**

Before undertaking any voter registration duties, each voter registration officer, deputy, or assistant in whatever capacity, or clerk in the office of commissioner shall take an oath in the form prescribed by the state commissioner of elections.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §4

b. The form of the written oath required of a person attesting to the identity and residency of the registrant shall read as follows:

I, ..... (name of registered voter), do solemnly swear or affirm all of the following:

I am a preregistered voter in this precinct or I registered to vote in this precinct today, and a registered voter did not sign an oath on my behalf. I have not signed an oath attesting to the identity and residence of any other person in this election.

I am a resident of the ..... precinct, ..... ward or township, city of ....., county of ....., Iowa.

I reside at ..... (street address) in ..... (city or township).

I personally know ..... (name of registrant), and I personally know that ..... (name of registrant) is a resident of the ..... precinct, ..... ward or township, city of ....., county of ....., Iowa.

I understand that any false statement in this oath is a class "D" felony punishable by no more than five years in confinement and a fine of at least seven hundred fifty dollars but not more than seven thousand five hundred dollars.

.....  
Signature of Registered Voter

Subscribed and sworn before me on ..... (date).

.....  
Signature of Precinct Election Official

2007 Acts, ch 35, §2, 7; 2007 Acts, ch 215, §242; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §73-75

**48A.8 Registration by mail.**

1. An eligible elector may request that a voter registration form be mailed to the elector. The completed form may be mailed or delivered by the registrant or the registrant's designee to the commissioner in the county where the person resides. A separate voter registration form shall be signed by each individual registrant.

2. An eligible elector who registers by mail and who has not previously voted in an election for federal office in the county of registration shall be required to provide identification documents when voting for the first time in the county, unless the registrant provided on the registration form the registrant's Iowa driver's license number, or the registrant's Iowa nonoperator's identification card number, or the last four numerals of the registrant's social security number and the driver's license, nonoperator's identification, or partial social security number matches an existing state or federal identification record with the same number, name, and date of birth. If the registrant under this subsection votes in person at the polls, or by absentee ballot at the commissioner's office or at a satellite voting station, the registrant shall provide a current and valid photo identification card, or shall present to the appropriate election official one of the following current documents that shows the name and address of the registrant:

- a. Utility bill.
- b. Bank statement.
- c. Paycheck.
- d. Government check.
- e. Other government document.

3. If the registrant under subsection 2 votes an absentee ballot by mail, the registrant shall provide a photocopy of one of the documents listed in subsection 2 when returning the absentee ballot.

4. A registrant under subsection 2 who is required to present identification when casting a ballot in person shall be permitted to vote a provisional ballot if the voter does not provide the required identification documents. If a voter who is required to present identification when casting a ballot votes an absentee ballot by mail, the ballot returned by the voter shall be considered a provisional ballot pursuant to sections 49.81 and 53.31.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §9; 2004 Acts, ch 1083, §6, 37; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §15

#### **48A.9 Voter registration deadlines.**

1. Registration closes at five p.m. eleven days before each election except primary and general elections. For primary and general elections, registration closes at five p.m. ten days before the election. An eligible elector may register during the time registration is closed in the elector's precinct but the registration shall not become effective until registration opens again in the elector's precinct, except as otherwise provided in section 48A.7A.

2. The commissioner's office shall be open from eight a.m. until at least five p.m. on the day registration closes before each regularly scheduled election. However, if the last day to register to vote for a regularly scheduled election falls on the day after Thanksgiving, the deadline shall be the following Monday.

3. A registration form submitted by mail shall be considered on time if it is postmarked no later than the fifteenth day before the election, even if it is received by the commissioner after the deadline, or if the registration form is received by the commissioner no later than five p.m. on the last day to register to vote for an election, even if it is postmarked after the fifteenth day before the election.

4. Registration forms submitted to voter registration agencies, to motor vehicle driver's license stations, and to county treasurer's offices participating in county issuance of driver's licenses under chapter 321M shall be considered on time if they are received no later than five p.m. on the day registration closes for that election. Offices or agencies other than the county commissioner's office are not required to be open for voter registration purposes at times other than their usual office hours.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §10; 98 Acts, ch 1073, §12; 98 Acts, ch 1143, §13, 26; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §19, 115; 2007 Acts, ch 35, §3, 7

#### **48A.10 Registration required.**

If a registered voter moves to a different county, the person shall submit a completed voter registration form to the commissioner in order to be qualified to vote in that county. An otherwise eligible elector whose right to vote has been restored pursuant to chapter 914 or who has been found not to be a person who is incompetent to vote may register to vote.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §11; 98 Acts, ch 1185, §3; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §20, 115

This section shall not apply to state and political subdivision employees who are required to offer assistance to clients as a part of their regular job duties, and who shall not be granted additional compensation for voter registration activities. A person assisting another in completing a voter registration form shall not complete any portion of the form without the knowledge or consent of the registrant.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §26; 2002 Acts, ch 1071, §8

**48A.25A Verification of voter registration information.**

1. *a.* Upon receipt of an application for voter registration, the commissioner of registration shall compare the Iowa driver's license number, the Iowa nonoperator's identification card number, or the last four numerals of the social security number provided by the registrant with the records of the state department of transportation. To be verified, the voter registration record shall contain the same name, date of birth, and Iowa driver's license number or Iowa nonoperator's identification card number or whole or partial social security number as the records of the state department of transportation. If the information cannot be verified, the application shall be recorded and the status of the voter's record shall be designated as pending status. The commissioner of registration shall notify the applicant that the applicant is required to present identification described in section 48A.8, subsection 2, before voting for the first time in the county. If the information can be verified, a record shall be made of the verification and the status of the voter's record shall be designated as active status.

*b.* This subsection shall not apply to applications received from registrants pursuant to section 48A.7A.

2. The voter registration commission shall adopt rules in accordance with chapter 17A to provide procedures for processing registration applications if the state department of transportation does not, before the close of registration for an election for which the voter registration would be effective, if verified, provide a report that the information on the application has matched or not matched the records of the department.

3. This section does not apply to persons described in section 53.37 who are entitled to register to vote and to vote.

2004 Acts, ch 1083, §13, 37; 2004 Acts, ch 1175, §356; 2005 Acts, ch 19, §19; 2007 Acts, ch 59, §42, 43; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §16

SUBCHAPTER V

PROCESSING VOTER REGISTRATION RECORDS

**48A.26 Acknowledgment of registration form.**

1. *a.* Except as otherwise provided in paragraph "b", within seven working days of receipt of a voter registration form or change of information in a voter registration record the commissioner shall send an acknowledgment to the registrant at the mailing address shown on the registration form. The acknowledgment shall be sent by nonforwardable mail.

*b.* For a voter registration form or change of information in a voter registration record submitted at a precinct caucus, the commissioner shall send an acknowledgment within forty-five days of receipt of the form or change of information.

2. If the registration form appears on its face to be complete and proper, the acknowledgment shall state that the registrant is now a registered voter of the county. The acknowledgment shall also specify the name of the precinct and the usual polling place for the precinct in which the person is now registered. The acknowledgment may include the political party affiliation most recently recorded by the registrant.

3. If the registration form is missing required information pursuant to section 48A.11, subsection 8, the acknowledgment shall advise the applicant what additional information is required. The commissioner shall enclose a new registration form for the applicant to use. If the registration form has no address, the commissioner shall make a reasonable effort to determine where the acknowledgment should be sent. If the incomplete registration form is received during the period in which registration is closed pursuant to section 48A.9 but by 5:00 p.m. on the Saturday before the election for general and primary elections or by 5:00 p.m. on the Friday before the election for all other elections, the commissioner shall send a notice advising the applicant of election day and in-person absentee registration procedures under section 48A.7A.

4. If the registrant applied by mail to register to vote and did not answer either “yes” or “no” to the question in section 48A.11, subsection 3, paragraph “a”, the application shall be processed. If the application is complete and proper in all other respects and information on the application is verified, as required by section 48A.25A, the applicant shall be registered to vote and sent an acknowledgment.

5. If the registrant applied by mail to register to vote and answered “no” to the question in section 48A.11, subsection 3, paragraph “a”, the application shall not be processed. The acknowledgment shall advise the applicant that the registration has been rejected because the applicant indicated on the registration form that the applicant is not a citizen of the United States.

6. If the acknowledgment is returned as undeliverable by the United States postal service, the commissioner shall follow the procedure described in section 48A.29, subsection 1.

7. If a registrant has not supplied enough information on a registration form for the commissioner to determine the correct precinct and other districts, the commissioner shall obtain the information as quickly as possible either from the registrant or other sources available to the commissioner.

8. An improperly addressed or delivered registration form shall be forwarded to the appropriate county commissioner of registration within two working days after it is received by any other official. The date of registration shall be the date the registration form was received by the first official. If the registration form was postmarked fifteen or more days before an election and the registration form was received by the first official after the close of registration, the registration form shall be considered on time for the election.

9. When a person who is at least seventeen and one-half years of age but less than eighteen years of age registers to vote, the commissioner shall maintain a record of the registration so as to clearly indicate that it will not take effect until the registrant’s eighteenth birthday and that the person is registered and qualifies to vote at any election held on or after that date.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §27; 97 Acts, ch 170, §15; 2004 Acts, ch 1083, §14, 15, 37; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §79; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §17

**48A.26A Acknowledgment of election day and in-person absentee registration form.**

1. Within forty-five days of receiving a voter registration form completed under section 48A.7A, the commissioner shall send an acknowledgment to the registrant, in the manner provided in section 48A.26, subsections 2 through 5, as applicable, at the mailing address shown on the registration form. The acknowledgment shall be sent by nonforwardable mail.

2. If the acknowledgment is returned as undeliverable by the postal service, the commissioner shall attempt to contact the voter by forwardable mail. If a response is not received from the voter within fourteen days after the notice is mailed, the commissioner shall change the status of the registration to inactive status and shall immediately notify the state registrar of voters and the county attorney.

2007 Acts, ch 35, §4, 7

**48A.27 Changes to voter registration records.**

1. Any voter registration form received by any voter registration agency, driver's license station, including county treasurer's offices participating in county issuance of driver's licenses under chapter 321M, or the commissioner shall be considered as updating the registrant's previous registration.

2. *a.* A person who is registered to vote may request changes in the voter's registration record at any time by submitting one of the following, as applicable:

(1) A written notice to the county commissioner.

(2) A completed Iowa or federal mail registration form to the county commissioner.

(3) On election day, a registration form to the precinct election officials at the precinct of the voter's current residence.

(4) A change of address form to the office of driver services of the state department of transportation, or to a county treasurer's office that is participating in county issuance of driver's licenses under chapter 321M.

(5) A change of address notice for voter registration submitted to any voter registration agency.

*b.* If a registered voter submits a change of name, telephone number, or address under this subsection, the commissioner shall not change the political party or nonparty political organization affiliation in the registered voter's prior registration unless otherwise indicated by the registered voter.

3. The commissioner shall make the necessary changes in the registration records without any action by the registrant when any of the following events occur:

*a.* Annexation of territory by a city. When an existing city annexes territory, the city clerk shall furnish the commissioner a detailed map of the annexed territory. If a city is divided into wards for voting purposes, the detailed map shall show the ward designations for the annexed territory. The commissioner shall change the registration of persons residing in that territory to reflect the annexation and the city precinct to which each of those persons is assigned. If the commissioner cannot determine the names and addresses of the persons affected by the annexation, the commissioner shall send each person who may be involved a letter informing the person that the person's registration may be in error, and requesting that each person provide the commissioner with the information necessary to correct the registration records.

*b.* Change of official street name or house or building number by a city or county. When the city or county changes the name of a street or the number of a house or other building in which a person resides, the city clerk or county board of supervisors shall inform the commissioner of the change, and the commissioner shall change the registration of each person affected.

*c.* Incorporation or discontinuance of a city. When a new city is incorporated or an existing city is discontinued, the city clerk shall notify the commissioner. The commissioner shall change the registration of each person affected.

*d.* Change of rural route designation of the residence of the registered voter. The commissioner shall request each postmaster in the county to inform the commissioner of each change in rural route designation and the names of the persons affected, and the commissioner shall change the registration of each person as appropriate.

4. *a.* A commissioner, either independently or in cooperation with the state registrar of voters, and in accordance with rules of the state voter registration commission, may enter into an agreement with a licensed vendor of the United States postal service participating in the national change of address program to identify registered voters of the county who may have moved either within or outside the county.

*b.* If the information provided by the vendor indicates that a registered voter has moved to another address within the county, the commissioner shall change the registration records to show the new residence address, and shall also mail a notice of that action to the new address. The notice shall be sent by forwardable mail, and shall include a postage prepaid preaddressed return form by which the registered voter may verify or correct the address information.

*c.* If the information provided by the vendor indicates that a registered voter has moved to an address outside the county, the commissioner shall make the registration record inactive, and shall mail a notice to the registered voter at the new address.

(1) The notice shall be sent by forwardable mail, and shall include a postage paid preaddressed return card on which the registered voter may state the registered voter's current address.

(2) The notice shall contain a statement in substantially the following form:

“Information received from the United States postal service indicates that you are no longer a resident of, and therefore not eligible to vote in (name of county) County, Iowa. If this information is not correct, and you still live in (name of county) County, please complete and mail the attached postage paid card at least ten days before the primary or general election and at least eleven days before any other election at which you wish to vote. If the information is correct and you have moved, please contact a local official in your new area for assistance in registering there. If you do not mail in the card, you may be required to show identification before being allowed to vote in (name of county) County. If you do not return the card, and you do not vote in an election in (name of county) County, Iowa, on or before (date of second general election following the date of the notice) your name will be removed from the list of voters in that county.”

*d.* If the information provided by the vendor indicates the registered voter has moved to another county within the state, the notice required by paragraph “*c*” shall include a statement that registration in the county of the person's current residence is required.

*e.* If a registered voter returns a card sent pursuant to this subsection and confirms that the registered voter has moved to a new residence outside the county, the commissioner shall cancel the registration of the voter.

*f.* If a registered voter returns a card sent pursuant to this subsection and states that the registered voter's residence address has not changed for the purpose of voter registration, the commissioner shall reinstate the record to active status, making any other changes directed by the registrant in the notice.

5. The commissioner shall keep a record of the names and addresses of the registered voters to whom notices under this section are sent and the date of the notice. When the return card from a notice is received by the commissioner, the commissioner shall record the date it was received and whether the registrant had moved within the county, moved to an address outside the county, or had not changed residence.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §28; 97 Acts, ch 170, §16–18; 98 Acts, ch 1073, §12; 98 Acts, ch 1143, §16, 17, 26; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §23, 24, 115; 2008 Acts, ch 1032, §147; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §80; 2009 Acts, ch 41, §24; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §18, 97

2009 amendments to subsection 4, paragraphs b and c, take effect April 10, 2009, and apply to notices mailed on or after that date; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §97

**48A.28 Systematic confirmation program.**

1. Each commissioner shall conduct a systematic program that makes a reasonable effort to remove from the official list of registered voters the names of registered voters who have changed residence from their registration addresses. Either or both of the methods described in this section may be used.

2. *a.* A commissioner may participate in the United States postal service national change of address program, as provided in section 48A.27. The state voter registration commission shall adopt rules establishing specific requirements for participation and use of the national change of address program.

*b.* A commissioner participating in the national change of address program, in the first quarter of each calendar year, shall send a notice and preaddressed, postage paid return card by forwardable mail to each registered voter whose name was not reported by the national change of address program and who has not voted in two or more consecutive general elections and has not registered again, or who has not reported a change to an existing registration, or who has not responded to a notice from the commissioner or registrar during the period between and following the previous two general elections. The form and language of the notice and return card shall be specified by the state voter registration commission by rule. A registered voter shall not be sent a notice and return card under this subsection more frequently than once in a four-year period.

3. *a.* For a commissioner who is not participating in the national change of address program, in February of each year the commissioner shall mail a confirmation notice to each registered voter in the county. The notice shall be sent by forwardable mail. The notice shall include a preaddressed, postage paid return card for the use of the registered voter or the recipient of the notice. The card shall contain boxes for the recipient to check to indicate one of the following:

(1) That the recipient is the registered voter named on the card, and is still a resident at the address listed.

(2) That the recipient is the registered voter named on the card, but is no longer a resident of the address listed.

(3) That the recipient is not the registered voter named on the card, and the registered voter named on the card is not a resident of the address listed.

*b.* The form and language of the confirmation notice and return card shall be specified by the state voter registration commission by rule.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §29; 97 Acts, ch 170, §19, 20; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §25, 115; 2004 Acts, ch 1083, §16, 37; 2008 Acts, ch 1032, §201

**48A.29 Procedure upon return of confirmation card.**

1. If a confirmation notice and return card sent pursuant to section 48A.28 is returned as undeliverable by the United States postal service, the commissioner shall make the registration record inactive and shall mail a notice to the registered voter at the registered voter's most recent mailing address, as shown by the registration records.

*a.* The notice shall be sent by forwardable mail, and shall include a postage paid preaddressed return card on which the registered voter may state the registered voter's current address.

*b.* The notice shall contain a statement in substantially the following form:

“Information received from the United States postal service indicates that you are no longer a resident of (residence address) in (name of county) County, Iowa. If this information is not correct, and you still live in (name of county) County, please complete and mail the attached postage paid card at least ten days before the primary or general election and at least eleven days before any other election at which you wish to vote. If the information is correct, and you have moved, please contact a local official in your new area for assistance in registering there. If you do not mail in the card, you may be required to show identification before being allowed to vote in (name of county) County. If you do not return the card, and you do not vote in some election in (name of county) County, Iowa, on or before (date of second general election following the date of the notice) your name will be removed from the list of voters in that county.”

2. When a detachable return card originally attached to a confirmation notice is returned indicating that the registered voter is still a resident of the address shown on the registration records, the commissioner shall make a record of the date the card was received.

3. When a detachable return card originally attached to a confirmation notice is returned by anyone other than the registered voter indicating that the registered voter is no longer a resident of the registration address, the commissioner shall make the registration record inactive, and shall mail a notice to the registered voter at the registered voter's most recent mailing address, as shown by the registration records.

*a.* The notice shall be sent by forwardable mail, and shall include a postage paid preaddressed return card on which the registered voter may state the registered voter's current address.

*b.* The notice shall contain a statement in substantially the following form:

“Information received by this office indicates that you are no longer a resident of (residence address) in (name of county) County, Iowa. If the information is not correct, and you still live at that address, please complete and mail the attached postage paid card at least ten days before the primary or general election and at least eleven days before any other election at which you wish to vote. If the information is correct, and you have moved within the county, you may update your registration by listing your new address on the card and mailing it back. If you have moved outside the county, please contact a local official in your new area for assistance in registering there. If you do not mail in the card, you may be required to show identification before being allowed to vote in (name of county) County. If you do not return the card, and you do not vote in some election in (name of county) County, Iowa, on or before (date of second general election following the date of the notice) your name will be removed from the list of registered voters in that county.”

94 Acts, ch 1169, §30; 97 Acts, ch 170, §21, 22; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §26, 115; 2003 Acts, ch 44, §25; 2008 Acts, ch 1032, §148

**48A.30 Cancellation of voter registration.**

1. The voter registration of a registered voter shall be canceled if any of the following occurs:

*a.* The registered voter dies. For the purposes of this subsection, the commissioner may accept as evidence of death a notice from the state registrar of vital statistics forwarded by the state registrar of voters, a written statement from a member of the registered voter's household, an obituary in a newspaper, a written statement from an election official, or a notice from the county recorder of the county where the registered voter died.

*b.* The registered voter registers to vote in another jurisdiction, and the commissioner receives notice of the registration from the registration official in the other jurisdiction.

*c.* The registered voter requests the cancellation in writing. For the purposes of this subsection, a confirmation by the registered voter that the registered voter is no longer a resident of the county constitutes a request for cancellation.

*d.* The clerk of the district court, or the United States attorney, or the state registrar sends notice of the registered voter's conviction of a felony as defined in section 701.7, or conviction of an offense classified as a felony under federal law. The clerk of the district court shall send notice of a felony conviction to the state registrar of voters. The registrar shall determine in which county the felon is registered to vote, if any, and shall notify the county commissioner of registration for that county of the felony conviction.

*e.* The clerk of the district court or the state registrar sends notice that the registered voter has been declared a person who is incompetent to vote under state law.

*f.* The registered voter's registration record has been inactive pursuant to section 48A.29 for two successive general elections.

2. When a registration is canceled pursuant to subsection 1, paragraph "d", "e", or "f", the commissioner shall send a notice of the cancellation to the registered voter.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §31; 98 Acts, ch 1185, §5; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §27, 28, 115

**48A.31 Deceased persons record.**

The state registrar of vital statistics shall transmit or cause to be transmitted to the state registrar of voters, once each calendar quarter, a certified list of all persons seventeen and one-half years of age and older in the state whose deaths have been reported to the bureau of vital records of the Iowa department of public health since the previous list of decedents was certified to the state registrar of voters. The list shall be submitted according to the specifications of the state registrar of voters. The commissioner shall, in the month following the end of a calendar quarter, run the statewide voter registration system's matching program to determine whether a listed decedent was registered to vote in the county and shall immediately cancel the registration of any person named on the list of decedents.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §32; 2002 Acts, ch 1119, §123; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §19

**48A.32 Destruction or removal of canceled voter registration records.**

Twenty-two months after the next general election following the cancellation of a person's voter registration, the commissioner may destroy all records of that person's registration. At the discretion of the commissioner, canceled records may be donated to a historical society if all confidential information has been removed from the records.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §33

**48A.33 Declination of registration opportunity.**

When a client or applicant of a voter registration agency declines to register to vote, the record of the declination shall be kept by the voter registration agency for twenty-two months after the next general election after which time the agency may destroy the records.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §34

SUBCHAPTER VI

RETENTION AND STORAGE OF VOTER REGISTRATION RECORDS

**48A.34 Confidentiality of certain records.**

Voter registration records are available for public inspection at reasonable times at the office of the county commissioner. The commissioner and any voter registration agency which has custody of voter registration records shall take the necessary steps to ensure that the name of the agency at which the voter registration form was submitted remains confidential.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §35

**48A.35 Voter registration records under control of the commissioner.**

The county commissioner of elections shall be responsible for the maintenance and storage of all paper and electronic voter registration records in the commissioner's custody. Original registration records shall not be removed from the commissioner's office or from any other designated permanent storage location except upon request of a county commissioner or a court order, or as provided by section 48A.32. The state registrar of voters and the state voter registration commission shall adopt administrative rules to implement this section.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §36

**48A.36 Electronic registration record retention in voter registration agencies.**

1. Voter registration agencies and the office of driver services of the state department of transportation may electronically transmit registration data to the state registrar of voters, who shall distribute the information, electronically or otherwise, to the appropriate commissioner in accordance with rules of the state voter registration commission and the state registrar of voters. The state agency originating the registration data shall permanently retain an electronic copy of the form completed by the registrant, including the registrant's signature, and shall develop procedures for the retrieval and printing of that electronic document. A printed copy of an electronic registration document shall be made only upon the agency's receipt of a court order.

2. Upon receipt of electronic registration data under subsection 1, the state registrar of voters shall cause the updating of registration records. The registrar shall notify the appropriate commissioner of the actions taken.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §37; 2004 Acts, ch 1083, §17, 37

#### **48A.37 Electronic registration records.**

1. Voter registration records shall be maintained in an electronic medium. A history of local election participation shall be maintained as part of the electronic record for at least two general, primary, school, and city elections. Absentee voting shall be recorded for the previous two general and primary elections. After each election, the county commissioner shall update telephone numbers provided by registered voters pursuant to section 49.77.

2. Electronic records shall include a status code designating whether the records are active, inactive, incomplete, pending, or canceled. Inactive records are records of registered voters to whom notices have been sent pursuant to section 48A.28, subsection 3, and who have not returned the card or otherwise responded to the notice, and those records have been designated inactive pursuant to section 48A.29. Inactive records are also records of registered voters to whom notices have been sent pursuant to section 48A.26A and who have not responded to the notice. Incomplete records are records missing required information pursuant to section 48A.11, subsection 8. Pending records are records of applicants whose applications have not been verified pursuant to section 48A.25A. Canceled records are records that have been canceled pursuant to section 48A.30. All other records are active records. An inactive record shall be made active when the registered voter requests an absentee ballot, votes at an election, registers again, or reports a change of name, address, telephone number, or political party or organization affiliation. An incomplete record shall be made active when a completed application is received from the applicant and verified pursuant to section 48A.25A. A pending record shall be made active upon verification or upon the voter providing identification pursuant to section 48A.8.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §38; 2004 Acts, ch 1083, §18, 37; 2004 Acts, ch 1175, §357; 2007 Acts, ch 35, §5, 7; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §81; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §20

#### **48A.38 Lists of voters.**

1. Any person may request of the registrar and shall receive, upon payment of the cost of preparation, a list of registered voters and other data on registration and participation in elections, in accordance with the following requirements and limitations:

*a.* The registrar shall prepare each list requested within fourteen days of receipt of the request, except that the registrar shall not be required to prepare any list within seven days of the close of registration for any regularly scheduled election if the preparation of the list would impede the preparation of election registers for that election.

*b.* Each list shall be as current as possible, but shall in all cases reflect voter activity reported to any commissioner twenty-eight or more days before preparation of the list.

c. Each list shall be in the order and form specified by the list purchaser, and shall contain the registration data specified by the list purchaser, provided compliance with the request is within the capability of the record maintenance system used by the registrar.

d. Lists prepared shall not include inactive records unless specifically requested by the requester.

e. The registrar shall prepare updates to lists at least biweekly, and after the close of registration for a regularly scheduled election, but before the election, if requested to do so at the time a list is purchased. All updates shall be made available to all requesters at the same time, and shall be in the order and form specified by each requester.

f. The county commissioner of registration and the state registrar of voters shall remove a voter's whole or partial social security number, as applicable, Iowa driver's license number, or Iowa nonoperator's identification card number from a voter registration list prepared pursuant to this section.

2. The registrar shall update information on participation in an election no later than sixty days after each election.

3. The registrar shall maintain a log of the name, address, and telephone number of every person who receives a list under this section, and of every person who reviews registration records in the office of the registrar. Commissioners of registration shall maintain a similar log in their offices of those who receive a list from the commissioner or who review registration records in the commissioner's office. Logs maintained under this subsection are public records, and shall be available for public inspection at reasonable times.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §39; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §29, 115; 2004 Acts, ch 1083, §19, 37; 2005 Acts, ch 19, §20; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §21

#### **48A.39 Use of registration information.**

Information about individual registrants obtained from voter registration records shall be used only to request the registrant's vote at an election, or for another genuine political purpose, or for a bona fide official purpose by an elected official, or for bona fide political research, but shall not be used for any commercial purposes.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §40; 2002 Acts, ch 1071, §9

**48A.40 Reports.** Repealed by 2009 Acts, ch 57, § 96.

### SUBCHAPTER VII

#### CRIMINAL PENALTIES

**48A.41 Criminal penalties.** Repealed by 2002 Acts, ch 1071, § 15. See § 39A.2 and 39A.3.

BLANK

CHAPTER 49

METHOD OF CONDUCTING ELECTIONS

See also definitions in §39.3  
 Chapter applicable to primary elections, §43.5  
 Criminal offenses, §39A.2–39A.5

- 49.1 Elections included.
- 49.2 Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.
- 49.3 Election precincts.
- 49.4 Precincts drawn by county board.
- 49.5 City precincts.
- 49.6 Power to combine township and city precincts.
- 49.7 Reprecincting schedule and filing requirements.
- 49.8 Changes in precincts.
- 49.9 Proper place of voting.
- 49.10 Polling places for certain precincts.
- 49.11 Notice of boundaries of precincts — merger or division.
- 49.12 Election boards.
- 49.13 Commissioner to appoint members, chairperson.
- 49.14 Substitute precinct election officials.
- 49.15 Commissioner to draw up election board panel.
- 49.16 Tenure of election board panel.
- 49.17 Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.
- 49.18 Vacancies occurring on election day.
- 49.19 Unpaid officials, paper ballots optional for certain city elections.
- 49.20 Compensation of members.
- 49.21 Polling places — accessibility — signs.
- 49.22 Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.
- 49.23 Notice of change.
- 49.24 Schoolhouses as polling places.
- 49.25 Equipment required at polling places.
- 49.26 Commissioner to decide method of voting — counting of ballots.
- 49.27 Reserved.
- 49.28 Commissioner to furnish registers and supplies.
- 49.29 Repealed by 97 Acts, ch 170, §93.
- 49.30 All candidates and issues on one ballot — exceptions.
- 49.31 Arrangement of names on ballot — restrictions.
- 49.32 Candidates for president in place of electors.
- 49.33 Single voting target for certain paired offices.
- 49.34 Repealed by 75 Acts, ch 81, §154.
- 49.35 Order of arranging tickets on lever voting machine ballot. Repealed by 2009 Acts, ch 57, §96.
- 49.36 Candidates of nonparty organization.
- 49.37 Arrangement of ballot.
- 49.38 Candidate's name to appear but once.
- 49.39 Dual nomination.
- 49.40 Failure to designate.
- 49.41 More than one office prohibited.
- 49.42 Repealed by 97 Acts, ch 170, §93.
- 49.42A Form of official ballot. Repealed by 2009 Acts, ch 57, §96.
- 49.43 Constitutional amendment or other public measure.
- 49.44 Summary.
- 49.45 General form of ballot.
- 49.46 Marking ballots on public measures.
- 49.47 Notice on ballots.
- 49.48 Notice for judicial officers and constitutional amendments.
- 49.49 Repealed by 75 Acts, ch 81, §154.
- 49.50 Endorsement and delivery of ballots.
- 49.51 Commissioner to control printing.
- 49.52 Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.
- 49.53 Publication of ballot and notice.
- 49.54 Cost of publication.
- 49.55 Delivery of supplies to officials.
- 49.56 Maximum cost of printing.
- 49.57 Method and style of printing ballots.
- 49.57A Form of official ballot — implementation by rule.
- 49.58 Effect of death of certain candidates.
- 49.59 to 49.62 Repealed by 75 Acts, ch 81, §154.
- 49.63 Time of printing — inspection and correction.
- 49.64 Number of ballots delivered.
- 49.65 Packing ballots — delivery — receipts — records.
- 49.66 Reserve supply of ballots.
- 49.67 Form of reserve supply.

49.68	State commissioner to furnish instructions.	49.97	How to mark a mixed ticket.
49.69	Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.	49.98	Counting ballots.
49.70	Precinct election officials furnished instructions.	49.99	Writing name on ballot.
49.71	Posting instruction cards and sample ballots.	49.100	Spoiled ballots.
49.72	Absentee voters designated before polling place opened.	49.101	Defective ballot does not nullify vote.
49.73	Time of opening and closing polls.	49.102	Defective ballots.
49.74	Voters entitled to vote after closing time.	49.103	Wrong ballots.
49.75	Oath.	49.104	Persons permitted at polling places.
49.76	How administered.	49.105	Ordering arrest.
49.77	Ballot furnished to voter.	49.106	Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.
49.78	Repealed by 72 Acts, ch 1025, §35.	49.107	Repealed by 2002 Acts, ch 1071, §15.
49.79	Challenges.	49.108	Penalty. Repealed by 84 Acts, ch 1067, §51.
49.80	Examination on challenge.	49.109	Employees entitled to time to vote.
49.81	Procedure for voter to cast provisional ballot.	49.110	and 49.111 Repealed by 2002 Acts, ch 1071, §15.
49.82	Voter to receive one ballot — endorsement.	49.112	Penalty. Repealed by 84 Acts, ch 1067, §51.
49.83	Names to be marked on election register.	49.113	Repealed by 2002 Acts, ch 1071, §15.
49.84	Marking and return of ballot.	49.114	through 49.118 Reserved.
49.85	Depositing ballots.	49.119	Repealed by 2002 Acts, ch 1071, §15.
49.86	Failure to vote — surrender of ballot.	49.120	Promise of position.
49.87	Prohibited ballot — taking ballot from polling place.	49.121	Promise of influence.
49.88	Limitation on persons in booth and time for voting.	49.122	Repealed by 84 Acts, ch 1067, §51.
49.89	Selection of officials to assist voters.	49.123	Courthouse open on election day.
49.90	Assisting voter.	49.124	Training course by commissioner — continuing education program.
49.91	Assistance indicated on register.	49.125	Compensation of trainees.
49.92	Voting mark.	49.126	Manual by state commissioner.
49.93	Number of votes for each office.	49.127	Commissioner to examine equipment.
49.94	How to mark a straight ticket.	49.128	through 49.130 Reserved.
49.95	Voting part of ticket only.	49.131	Repealed by 86 Acts, ch 1023, §12.
49.96	Offices with more than one person to be elected.		

#### 49.1 Elections included.

The provisions of this chapter shall apply to all elections except those special elections which by the terms of the statutes authorizing them are exempt from the provisions of this chapter.

[C97, §1088; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §719; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.1]

#### 49.2 Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, § 401.

#### **49.12 Election boards.**

There shall be appointed in each election precinct an election board which shall ordinarily consist of three or five precinct election officials. At the commissioner's discretion, additional precinct election officials may be appointed to work at any election. Double election boards may be appointed for any precinct as provided by chapter 51. Not more than a simple majority of the members of the election board in any precinct, or of the two combined boards in any precinct for which a double election board is appointed, shall be members of the same political party or organization if one or more registered voters of another party or organization are qualified and willing to serve on the board.

[C51, §246, 248, 1111; R60, §481, 483, 2027, 2030, 2031; C73, §606, 1717, 1719; C97, §1093, 2746, 2751, 2756; S13, §2756; SS15, §1087-a5, 1093; C24, §559, 730, 731, 735, 4165, 4195, 4209, 4211; C27, §559, 730, 731, 735, 4165, 4195, 4209, 4211-b2; C31, 35, §559, 730, 731, 735, 4165, 4216-c10; C39, §559, 730, 731, 735, 4165, 4216.10; C46, 50, §43.31, 49.12, 49.13, 49.17, 49.19, 276.12, 277.10; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §43.31, 49.12, 49.13, 49.17, 275.19, 277.10; C75, 77, 79, 81, §49.12]

87 Acts, ch 221, §12; 88 Acts, ch 1119, §15; 95 Acts, ch 67, §53; 98 Acts, ch 1123, §4

#### **49.13 Commissioner to appoint members, chairperson.**

1. The membership of each precinct election board shall be appointed by the commissioner, not less than fifteen days before each election held in the precinct, from the election board panel drawn up as provided in section 49.15. Precinct election officials shall be registered voters of the county, or other political subdivision within which precincts have been merged across county lines pursuant to section 49.11, subsection 3, paragraph "a", in which they are appointed. Preference shall be given to appointment of residents of a precinct to serve as precinct election officials for that precinct, but the commissioner may appoint other residents of the county where necessary.

2. To the extent necessary, election boards shall include members of the two political parties whose candidates for president of the United States or for governor, as the case may be, received the largest and next largest number of votes in the county at the last general election. Election boards may also include persons not members of either of these parties. However, persons who are not members of either of these political parties shall not comprise more than one-third of the membership of an election board.

3. In appointing the election board to serve for any election in which candidates' names do appear under the heading of these political parties, the commissioner shall give preference to the persons designated by the respective county chairpersons of these political parties for placement on the election board panel, as provided by section 49.15, in the order that they were so designated. However, the commissioner may for good cause decline to appoint a designee of a county chairperson if that chairperson is notified and allowed two working days to designate a replacement.

4. The commissioner shall designate one member of each precinct election board as chairperson of that board. If a counting board authorized by chapter 51 is appointed, the chairperson shall have authority over the mechanics of the work of both boards. At the discretion of the commissioner, two people who are members of different political parties may be appointed as co-chairpersons. The co-chairpersons shall have joint authority over the work of the precinct election board.

5. The commissioner may appoint high school students who are not yet qualified to be registered voters to serve as precinct election board members.

*a.* To qualify to serve as a precinct election board member, a high school student shall:

(1) Be a United States citizen.  
 (2) Be at least seventeen years of age and a student in good standing enrolled in a public or private secondary school in Iowa.

(3) Receive credit in at least four subjects, each of one period or hour, or the equivalent thereof, at all times. The eligible subjects are language arts, social studies, mathematics, science, health, physical education, fine arts, foreign language, and vocational education. Coursework taken as a postsecondary enrollment option for which a school district or accredited nonpublic school grants academic credit toward high school graduation shall be used in determining eligibility. A student shall not be denied eligibility if the student's school program deviates from the traditional two-semester school year. Each student wishing to participate under this subsection shall be passing all coursework for which credit is given and shall be making adequate progress toward graduation requirements at the end of each grading period. At the end of a grading period that is the final grading period in a school year, a student who receives a failing grade in any course for which credit is awarded is ineligible to participate under this subsection. A student who is eligible at the close of a semester is academically eligible to participate under this subsection until the beginning of the subsequent semester. A student with a disability who has an individualized education program shall not be denied eligibility to participate under this subsection on the basis of scholarship if the student is making adequate progress, as determined by school officials, towards the goals and objectives of the student's individualized education program.

(4) At the time of appointment, have the written approval of the principal of the secondary school the student attends.

(5) Have the written approval of the student's parent or legal guardian.

(6) Have satisfactorily completed the training course for election officials.

(7) Meet all other qualifications for appointment and service as an election board member except the requirement of being a registered voter.

*b.* No more than one student precinct election board member may serve on each precinct election board.

*c.* Student precinct election board members shall not serve as the chairperson of a precinct election board.

*d.* Before serving at a partisan election, the student precinct election board member must certify in writing to the commissioner the political party with which the student is affiliated.

*e.* Student precinct election board members shall not be allowed to work more hours than allowed under the applicable labor laws.

*f.* A student who serves on a precinct election board is not eligible to receive class credit for such service unless such service qualifies as meeting the requirements of a class assignment imposed on all students in the class.

*g.* No later than fourteen days after the date of the election, the commissioner shall report to the appropriate secondary school the following information:

(1) The name of each student attending the school who served as a precinct election board member on election day.

(2) The number of hours the student served as a precinct election board member.

(3) The precinct number and polling place location where the student served as a precinct election board member.

(4) Any other information the commissioner deems appropriate or that is requested by the school.

[C97, §1093; SS15, §1093; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §733; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §49.15; C75, 77, 79, 81, §49.13]

95 Acts, ch 67, §53; 97 Acts, ch 170, §23; 2007 Acts, ch 34, §1; 2007 Acts, ch 138, §1; 2008 Acts, ch 1032, §194; 2009 Acts, ch 41, §25

#### **49.14 Substitute precinct election officials.**

1. The commissioner may appoint substitute precinct election officials as alternates for election board members. The responsibilities and duties of a precinct election official, other than the chairperson, present at the time the polling place was opened on the day of an election may be assumed at any later time that day by a substitute appointed as an alternate. The substitute shall serve either for the balance of that election day or for any shorter period of time the commissioner may designate. At partisan elections, a substitute precinct election official assuming the duties of a precinct election official shall be a member of the same political party as the precinct election official whose duties are being assumed.

2. Substitute precinct election officials shall be appointed and shall serve in accordance with sections 49.12, 49.13, 49.15, and 49.16, and shall receive compensation as provided by sections 49.19, 49.20, and 49.125. Upon arriving at the polling place and prior to performing any official duty, a substitute precinct election official shall take the oath required by section 49.75.

3. The commissioner shall not employ substitute precinct election officials in a partisan election unless:

*a.* The election board panel drawn up pursuant to section 49.15 contains the names of a sufficient number of political party designees to permit appointment of both the regular precinct election officials and any substitute precinct election officials from that panel; or

*b.* The commissioner has informed the county chairpersons of the political parties referred to in section 49.13, subsection 2, thirty days prior to the date of the election, of intent to appoint substitute precinct election officials and has allowed ten days thereafter for the respective county chairpersons to provide additional names of persons from whom the substitute precinct election officials shall be appointed. If a county chairperson fails to provide additional names after being so notified, the commissioner may appoint persons known to be members of the appropriate political party or parties.

[S81, §49.14; 81 Acts, ch 34, §25]

2007 Acts, ch 59, §7, 19

#### **49.15 Commissioner to draw up election board panel.**

1. Not less than twenty days before each primary election, the commissioner shall draw up for each precinct an election board panel from which members of the precinct election board shall be appointed for each election held in the precinct during the ensuing two years.

2. *a.* Each panel shall include members of each of the political parties referred to in section 49.13, whose names may be designated by the county chairpersons of each of these political parties not less than thirty days prior to each primary election. The commissioner may place on the election board panel names of persons known by the commissioner to be members of these political parties, if the respective county chairpersons fail to designate a sufficient number of names, and may also add names of persons, whether or not they are

members of either of these political parties, who have advised the commissioner they are willing to serve on the election board.

*b.* The commissioner may also place on the election board panel names of persons whom either the city council of a city of three thousand five hundred or less population or a school board has advised the commissioner at least thirty days before each primary election are willing to serve without pay at elections conducted for that school district or city, as the case may be, during the tenure of the election board panel on which these names are included.

3. In drawing up precinct election board panels, the commissioner may use student precinct election board members appointed pursuant to section 49.13, subsection 5.

[C97, §1093; SS15, §1093; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §733; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.15]

2007 Acts, ch 34, §2; 2007 Acts, ch 138, §2

#### **49.16 Tenure of election board panel.**

Each person whose name is placed on the election board panel as provided in section 49.15, shall remain available for appointment to the election board of the precinct, subject to the provisions of section 49.12, until a new panel is drawn up unless the person's name is sooner deleted from the panel by the commissioner. The election board for each election held in the precinct shall be drawn from the panel, however:

1. No person shall serve on the election board at any election in which the person or any person related to the person within the third degree of consanguinity or affinity is a candidate to be voted upon in that precinct, and it shall be the responsibility of each person whose name is listed on the election board panel to notify the commissioner not less than fifteen days before any election at which the person is ineligible to serve by reason of this subsection. However, this subsection shall not apply in the case of any candidate or relative of a candidate seeking an office or nomination which no opposing candidate is seeking. Any candidate for an office or for nomination to an office to which two or more persons are to be elected at large is unopposed, for the purpose of this subsection, if the number of candidates for the office or nomination does not exceed the number of persons to be elected or nominated.

2. When all or portions of two or more precincts are merged for any election as permitted by section 49.11, subsection 3, paragraph "a", the commissioner may appoint the election board for the merged precinct from the election board panels of any of the precincts so merged. When any permanent precinct is divided as permitted by section 49.11, subsection 3, paragraph "c", the commissioner shall so far as possible appoint the election board for each of the temporary precincts so created from the election board panel of the permanent precinct.

3. Persons whose names are listed on the election board panel shall not be required to serve on the election board for any election which by the terms of the statute authorizing it is exempt from the provisions of this chapter. The necessary officers for such elections shall be designated as provided by law or, if there is no applicable statute, by the commissioner.

4. In appointing the election board for any election conducted for a city of three thousand five hundred or less population, or any school district, the commissioner may give preference to any persons who are willing to serve without pay at those elections.

5. A person shall not serve on the precinct election board as a representative of a political party if the person has changed political party affiliation from that of the political party which selected the person to serve as a precinct election official. If a precinct election official records a change of political party, the official's name shall be removed from the list of precinct election officials for that political party. The chairperson of the political party shall be notified of the vacancy and may designate a replacement. If the chairperson of another political party later designates the person as a precinct election official, the person may serve, if qualified.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §49.16]

97 Acts, ch 170, §24; 2008 Acts, ch 1032, §195

**49.17** Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, § 401.

**49.18 Vacancies occurring on election day.**

If, at the opening of the polls in any precinct, there shall be a vacancy in the office of the precinct election official, the vacancy shall be filled by the commissioner or, with the commissioner's approval and for that election only by the members of the board present, consideration being given to the political party affiliation of the person appointed if necessary in order to comply with the requirements of sections 49.12 and 49.13.

[C51, §247, 1111; R60, §482, 2027, 2030, 2031; C73, §607, 1717, 1719; C97, §1093, 2746, 2751, 2756; S13, §2756; SS15, §1087-a5, 1093; C24, §559, 736, 737, 4195, 4209, 4211; C27, §559, 736, 737, 4195, 4209, 4211-b2; C31, 35, §559, 736, 737, 4216-c10; C39, §559, 736, 737, 4216.10; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §43.31, 49.18, 49.19, 277.10; C75, 77, 79, 81, §49.18]

**49.19 Unpaid officials, paper ballots optional for certain city elections.**

The commissioner may appoint unpaid election precinct officials to election boards, as provided by sections 49.15, 49.16 and 49.20, or elect not to use automatic tabulating equipment even though it is available, as permitted by section 49.26, or both, for any election held for a city, even if the city has a population of more than three thousand five hundred, if there is no contest for any office on the ballot and no public question is being submitted to the voters at that election.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §49.19]

2009 Acts, ch 57, §22

**49.20 Compensation of members.**

The members of election boards shall be deemed temporary state employees who are compensated by the county in which they serve, and shall receive compensation at a rate established by the board of supervisors, which shall be

not less than the minimum wage established in section 91D.1, subsection 1, paragraph “b”, while engaged in the discharge of their duties and shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary travel expense at a rate determined by the board of supervisors, except that persons who have advised the commissioner prior to their appointment to the election board that they are willing to serve without pay at elections conducted for any school district or a city of three thousand five hundred or less population, shall receive no compensation for service at those elections. Compensation shall be paid to members of election boards only after the vote has been canvassed and it has been determined in the course of the canvass that the election record certificate has been properly executed by the election board.

[SS15, §1087-a5, 1093; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §560, 738; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §43.32, 49.20; C75, 77, 79, 81, §49.20]

89 Acts, ch 121, §1; 97 Acts, ch 170, §25; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §91

#### **49.21 Polling places — accessibility — signs.**

1. It is the responsibility of the commissioner to designate a polling place for each precinct in the county. Each polling place designated shall be accessible to persons with disabilities. However, if the commissioner is unable to provide an accessible polling place for a precinct, the commissioner shall apply for a temporary waiver of the accessibility requirement. The state commissioner shall adopt rules in accordance with chapter 17A prescribing standards for determining whether a polling place is accessible and the process for applying for a temporary waiver of accessibility.

2. *a.* Upon the application of the commissioner, the authority which has control of any buildings or grounds supported by taxation under the laws of this state shall make available the necessary space therein for the purpose of holding elections, without charge for the use thereof.

*b.* Except as otherwise provided by law, the polling place in each precinct in the state shall be located in a central location if a building is available. However, first consideration shall be given to the use of public buildings supported by taxation.

3. *a.* On the day of an election, the commissioner shall post a sign stating “vote here” at the entrance to each driveway leading to the building where a polling place is located. The sign must be visible from the street or highway fronting the driveway, but shall not encroach upon the right-of-way of such street or highway.

*b.* The commissioner shall post a sign at the entrance to the polling place indicating the election precinct number or name, and displaying a street map showing the boundaries of the precinct.

[C51, §222, 245; R60, §444, 480; C73, §391, 603; C97, §566, 1113, 2755; S13, §2755; C24, 27, §739, 4205; C31, 35, §739, 4216-c7; C39, §739, 4216.07; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §49.21, 277.7; C75, 77, 79, 81, S81, §49.21; 81 Acts, ch 34, §26]

96 Acts, ch 1129, §15; 2000 Acts, ch 1039, §1; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §30, 115; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §92

**49.22** Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, § 401.

**49.23 Notice of change.**

When a change is made from the usual polling place for the precinct or when the precinct polling place for any primary or general election is different from that used for the precinct at the last preceding primary or general election, notice of such change shall be given by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the precinct not more than twenty nor less than four days before the day on which the election is to be held. In addition a notice of the present polling place for the precinct shall be posted, not later than the hour at which the polls open on the day of the election, on each door to the usual or former polling place in the precinct and shall remain there until the polls have closed.

[C51, §222; R60, §444; C73, §391; C97, §566; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §741; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.23]

89 Acts, ch 136, §35

**49.24 Schoolhouses as polling places.**

In precincts outside of cities the election shall, if practicable, be held in a public school building. Any damage to the building or furniture resulting from the election shall be paid by the county.

[C97, §1113; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §742; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.24]

Schoolhouses as polling places, §297.9

**49.25 Equipment required at polling places.**

1. The commissioner shall determine pursuant to section 49.26, subsection 2, in advance of an election whether ballots voted in that election shall be counted by automatic tabulating equipment or by precinct election officials. If automatic tabulating equipment will be used, the commissioner shall furnish voting equipment for use by voters with disabilities.

2. The commissioner shall furnish to each precinct, in advance of each election, voting booths in the following number:

*a.* At each regularly scheduled election, at least one for every three hundred fifty voters who voted in the last preceding similar election held in the precinct.

*b.* At any special election at which the ballot contains only a single public measure or only candidates for a single office or position, the number determined by the commissioner.

3. The commissioner shall furnish to each precinct the necessary ballot boxes, suitably equipped with seals or locks and keys, and voting booths. The voting booths shall provide for voting in secrecy. At least one voting booth in each precinct shall be accessible to persons with disabilities. Ballot boxes shall be locked or sealed before the polls open and shall remain locked or sealed until the polls are closed, except as provided in section 51.7 or to provide necessary service to malfunctioning automatic tabulating equipment. If a ballot box is opened prior to the closing of the polls, two precinct election officials not of the same party shall be present and observe the ballot box being opened.

4. Secrecy folders or sleeves shall be provided for use at any precinct where ballots are used which cannot be folded to obscure the marks made by the voters.

[C51, §254; R60, §489; C73, §614; C97, §1113, 1130, 2756; S13, §1130, 2756; C24, 27, §743, 744, 4209; C31, 35, §743, 744, 4216-c14; C39, §743, 744, 4216.14; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §49.25, 49.26, 277.14; C75, 77, 79, 81, §49.25]

90 Acts, ch 1007, §1; 96 Acts, ch 1129, §113; 97 Acts, ch 170, §26, 27; 2007 Acts, ch 190, §19; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §93; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §23

**49.26 Commissioner to decide method of voting — counting of ballots.**

1. In all elections regulated by this chapter, the voting shall be by paper ballots printed and distributed as provided by law, or by voting systems meeting the requirements of chapter 52.

2. *a.* The commissioner shall determine in advance of each election conducted for a city of three thousand five hundred or less population or for any school district whether the ballots will be counted by automatic tabulating equipment or by the precinct election officials. In making such a determination, the commissioner shall consider voter turnout for recent similar elections and factors considered likely to affect voter turnout for the forthcoming election.

*b.* If the commissioner concludes that voting will probably be so light as to make counting of ballots by the precinct election officials less expensive than preparation and use of automatic tabulating equipment, paper ballots shall be used. The commissioner may use ballots and instructions similar to those used when the ballots are counted by automatic tabulating equipment.

[S13, §2754; C24, 27, §4203; C31, 35, §4216-c15; C39, §4216.15; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §277.15; C75, 77, 79, 81, §49.26]

97 Acts, ch 170, §28; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §24

**49.27 Reserved.**

**49.28 Commissioner to furnish registers and supplies.**

1. The commissioner shall prepare and furnish to each precinct an election register and all other books, forms, materials, equipment, and supplies necessary to conduct the election.

2. *a.* After the registration deadline and before election day the commissioner shall prepare an election register for each precinct in which voting will occur on the day of the election. The precinct election register shall be a list of the names and addresses of all registered voters of the precinct. Inactive records listed in the election register shall be clearly identified with a special mark or symbol.

*b.* When a precinct is divided by a district boundary, and some, but not all, registered voters of the precinct may vote on an issue or office from that district, the election register shall clearly indicate which of the registered voters are entitled to vote in the district.

[C51, §255; R60, §490; C73, §615; C97, §1113, 1132, 2756; S13, §1087-a16, 2756; C24, 27, §561, 746, 4209; C31, 35, §561, 746, 4216-c14; C39, §561, 746, 4216.14; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §43.33, 49.28, 277.14; C75, 77, 79, 81, §49.28]  
94 Acts, ch 1169, §49; 2007 Acts, ch 190, §1; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §25

**49.29** Repealed by 97 Acts, ch 170, § 93.

**49.30 All candidates and issues on one ballot — exceptions.**

All constitutional amendments, all public measures, and the names of all candidates, other than presidential electors, to be voted for in each election precinct, shall be printed on one ballot, except that separate ballots are authorized under the following circumstances:

1. Where optical scan ballots are used, if it is not possible to include all offices and public measures on a single ballot, separate ballots may be provided for nonpartisan offices, judges, or public measures.

2. Where conventional paper ballots are used, separate paper ballots shall be used:

*a.* For the election of township officers in precincts including both incorporated and unincorporated areas or more than one township.

*b.* For public measures.

*c.* For judges.

[C51, §256; R60, §491; C73, §616; C97, §1106; S13, §1106; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §748; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.30]

90 Acts, ch 1238, §17; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §64; 97 Acts, ch 170, §29; 98 Acts, ch 1100, §6; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §31, 115; 2005 Acts, ch 152, §7, 8; 2007 Acts, ch 190, §20–22

**49.31 Arrangement of names on ballot — restrictions.**

1. *a.* All ballots shall be arranged with the names of candidates for each office listed below the office title. For partisan elections the name of the political party or organization which nominated each candidate shall be listed after or below each candidate's name.

*b.* The commissioner shall determine the order of political parties and nonparty political organizations on the ballot. The sequence shall be the same for each office on the ballot and for each precinct in the county voting in the election.

2. *a.* The commissioner shall prepare a list of the election precincts of the county, by arranging the various townships and cities in the county in alphabetical order, and the wards or precincts in each city or township in numerical order under the name of such city or township.

*b.* The commissioner shall then arrange the surnames of each political party's candidates for each office to which two or more persons are to be elected at large alphabetically for the respective offices for the first precinct on the list; thereafter, for each political party and for each succeeding precinct, the names appearing first for the respective offices in the last preceding precinct shall be placed last, so that the names that were second before the change shall be first after the change. The commissioner may also rotate the names of candidates of a political party in the reverse order of that provided in this subsection or alternate the rotation so that the candidates of different parties shall not be paired as they proceed through the rotation. The procedure for arrangement of names on ballots provided in this section shall likewise be substantially followed in elections in political subdivisions of less than a county.

*c.* On the general election ballot the names of candidates for the nonpartisan offices listed in section 39.21 shall be arranged by drawing lots for position. The commissioner shall hold the drawing on the first business day following the

deadline for filing of nomination certificates or petitions with the commissioner for the general election pursuant to section 44.4. If a candidate withdraws, dies, or is removed from the ballot after the ballot position of names has been determined, such candidate's name shall be removed from the ballot, and the order of the remaining names shall not be changed.

3. The ballots for any city elections, school elections, special election, or any other election at which any office is to be filled on a nonpartisan basis and the statutes governing the office to be filled are silent as to the arrangement of names on the ballot, shall contain the names of all nominees or candidates arranged in alphabetical order by surname under the heading of the office to be filled. When a city election, school election, special election, or any other election at which an office is to be filled on a nonpartisan basis, is held in more than one precinct, the candidates' names shall be rotated on the ballot from precinct to precinct in the manner prescribed by subsection 2 unless there are no more candidates for an office than the number of persons to be elected to that office.

4. The heading for each office on the ballot shall be immediately followed by a notation stating, "Vote for no more than .....", and indicating the maximum number of nominees or candidates for that office for whom each elector may vote.

5. At the end of the list of candidates for each office listed on the ballot one or more blank lines and voting positions shall be printed to allow the elector to write in the name of any person for whom the elector desires to vote for any office or nomination on the ballot. The number of write-in lines shall equal the number of votes that can be cast for that office.

6. The name of a candidate printed on the ballot shall not include parentheses, quotation marks, or any personal or professional title.

7. For the purpose of ballot rotation the absentee ballot and special voters precinct may be considered a separate precinct.

[C97, §1106; S13, §1106, 2754; C24, 27, §749, 4203; C31, 35, §749, 4216-c8; C39, §749, 4216.08; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §49.31, 277.8; C75, 77, 79, 81, §49.31]

86 Acts, ch 1224, §11, 12; 87 Acts, ch 221, §13, 14; 89 Acts, ch 136, §36; 90 Acts, ch 1238, §18; 91 Acts, ch 129, §12; 97 Acts, ch 170, §30–32; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §32, 115; 2006 Acts, ch 1002, §2, 4; 2008 Acts, ch 1032, §150

**49.32 Candidates for president in place of electors.**

The candidates for electors of president and vice president of any political party or group of petitioners shall not be placed on the ballot, but in the years in which they are to be elected the names of candidates for president and vice president, respectively, of such parties or group of petitioners shall be placed on the ballot, as the names of candidates for United States senators are placed thereon, under their respective party, petition, or adopted titles for each political party, or group of petitioners, nominating a set of candidates for electors.

[C97, §1106; S13, §1106; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §750; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.32]

**49.33 Single voting target for certain paired offices.**

Immediately opposite the names of each pair of candidates for president and vice president, a single voting target shall be printed next to the bracket enclosing the names of the candidates for president and vice president. A single voting target shall be printed next to the bracket enclosing the names of the candidates for governor and lieutenant governor. The votes for a team of candidates shall be counted and certified by the election board as a team. Write-in votes shall also be tabulated as a single vote for a pair of candidates.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §751; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.33]

90 Acts, ch 1238, §19; 97 Acts, ch 170, §33

Canvass of votes, chapter 50

**49.34** Repealed by 75 Acts, ch 81, § 154.

**49.35 Order of arranging tickets on lever voting machine ballot.**  
Repealed by 2009 Acts, ch 57, § 96.

**49.36 Candidates of nonparty organization.**

The term “*group of petitioners*” as used in section 49.32 shall embrace an organization which is not a political party as defined by law.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §754; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.36]

2009 Acts, ch 133, §14

Nonparty organizations, see chapter 44

Political party defined, §43.2

See also chapter 45

**49.37 Arrangement of ballot.**

1. For general elections, and for other elections in which more than one partisan office will be filled, the first section of the ballot shall be for straight party voting.

*a.* Each political party or organization which has nominated candidates for more than one office shall be listed. Instructions to the voter for straight party or organization voting shall be in substantially the following form:

“To vote for all candidates from a single party or organization, mark the voting target next to the party or organization name. Not all parties or organizations have nominated candidates for all offices. Marking a straight party or organization vote does not include votes for nonpartisan offices, judges, or questions.”

b. Political parties and nonparty political organizations which have nominated candidates for only one office shall be listed below the other political organizations under the following heading:

“Other Political Organizations. The following organizations have nominated candidates for only one office:”.

c. Offices shall be arranged in groups. Partisan offices, nonpartisan offices, judges, and public measures shall be separated by a distinct line appearing on the ballot.

2. The commissioner shall arrange the ballot in conformity with the certificate issued by the state commissioner under section 43.73, in that the names of the respective candidates for each political party shall appear in the order they appeared on the certificate, above or to the left of the nonparty political organization candidates.

3. The commissioner shall arrange the partisan county offices on the ballot with the board of supervisors first, followed by the other county offices in the same sequence in which they appear in section 39.17. Nonpartisan offices shall be listed after partisan offices.

[C97, §1106; S13, §1106; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §755; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.37]

89 Acts, ch 136, §37; 97 Acts, ch 170, §35, 36; 2005 Acts, ch 152, §9; 2008 Acts, ch 1032, §151

#### **49.38 Candidate’s name to appear but once.**

The name of a candidate shall not appear upon the ballot in more than one place for the same office, whether nominated by convention, primary, caucus, or petition, except as hereinafter provided.

[C97, §1106; S13, §1106; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §756; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.38]

#### **49.39 Dual nomination.**

When two or more political parties, or when two or more political organizations which are not political parties, or when a political party and a political organization which is not a political party, nominate the same candidate for the same office, such nominee shall forthwith designate, in writing, the political party name, or the political organization name, under which the nominee desires to have the nominee’s name printed on the official ballot for the ensuing general election; such written designation shall be filed with the officer with whom the nomination paper, or certificate of nomination by a convention or caucus, is filed and the name of such nominee shall appear on the ballot in accordance therewith.

[C97, §1106; S13, §1087-a6, 1106; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §757; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.39]

**49.40 Failure to designate.**

If the designation referred to in section 49.39 be not filed, the following rules shall govern:

1. If the nomination be by two or more political parties, the name of such nominee shall be printed under the party designation under which nomination papers were first filed in the nominee's behalf.

2. If the nomination be by a political party and also by a political organization which is not a political party, the name of such nominee shall be printed under the name of the political party or political organization first filing nomination papers, or certificate of nomination, as the case may be.

3. If the nomination be by two or more political organizations which are not political parties, the name of such nominee shall be printed under the name of the political organization first filing a certificate of nomination of such candidate.

[C97, §1106; S13, §1087-a6, 1106; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §758; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.40]

**49.41 More than one office prohibited.**

1. *a.* A person shall not be a candidate for more than one office to be filled at the same election. A person who has been nominated for more than one office shall file a written notice declaring the office for which the person wishes to appear on the ballot.

*b.* If the nomination papers for all offices for which the candidate has been nominated are required to be filed with the same commissioner of elections, the candidate shall file a written notice with that commissioner no later than five p.m. on the final date upon which nomination papers may be filed for the election. The notice shall state the office for which the person wishes to appear on the ballot. If the required notice is not filed, the candidate's name shall not be certified by the state commissioner for any office for which nomination papers are filed with the state commissioner and the county commissioner of elections shall not include the candidate's name on the ballot for any office in any county.

*c.* If a person is a candidate for one or more offices for which nomination papers are required to be filed with the state commissioner and one or more offices for which nomination papers are required to be filed with the county commissioner, the candidate shall notify the state commissioner and the county commissioner in writing. The notice shall state the office for which the person chooses to remain a candidate. The notice shall be filed no later than the last day to file nomination papers with the commissioner. If the required notice is not filed, the candidate's name shall not appear on the ballot for any office in any county.

2. *a.* If necessary, the county commissioner shall certify to the state commissioner the name of any person who is a candidate for more than one office which will appear on the ballot for the election. The certification of dual candidacy shall be made no later than five p.m. on the day following the final day to file nomination papers in the office of the commissioner.

*b.* When the state commissioner receives notice from the county commissioner that a candidate for a state or federal office has also been nominated for a county or township office, the state commissioner shall amend the certificate issued pursuant to section 43.73 and notify the commissioners of any other counties to whom the candidate's name was originally certified and instruct them to remove the candidate's name from the ballot in those counties.

3. This section does not apply to the county agricultural extension council or the soil and water conservation district commission.

4. For purposes of township office, “*nomination papers*” as used in this section means the affidavit of candidacy required in section 45.3.

88 Acts, ch 1119, §16; 91 Acts, ch 129, §13; 2001 Acts, ch 158, §10; 2007 Acts, ch 25, §3

**49.42** Repealed by 97 Acts, ch 170, § 93.

**49.42A Form of official ballot.** Repealed by 2009 Acts, ch 57, § 96. See § 49.57A.

**49.43 Constitutional amendment or other public measure.**

1. If possible, all public measures and constitutional amendments to be voted upon by an elector shall be included on a single ballot which shall also include all offices to be voted upon. However, if it is necessary, a separate ballot may be used as provided in section 49.30, subsection 1.

2. Constitutional amendments and other public measures may be summarized by the commissioner as provided in sections 49.44 and 52.25.

[C97, §1106; S13, §1106; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §761, 762, 767; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §49.43, 49.44; C75, §49.43, 49.49; C77, 79, 81, §49.43]

88 Acts, ch 1119, §17; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §64; 97 Acts, ch 170, §38, 39; 2007 Acts, ch 190, §23; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §26

Iowa Constitution, Art. X, §1

See also §52.24

**49.44 Summary.**

1. When a proposed constitutional amendment or other public measure to be decided by the voters of the entire state is to be voted upon, the state commissioner shall prepare a written summary of the amendment or measure including the number of the amendment or statewide public measure assigned by the state commissioner. The summary shall be printed immediately preceding the text of the proposed amendment or measure on the paper ballot or optical scan ballot referred to in section 49.43. If the complete text of the public measure will not fit on the ballot it shall be posted inside the voting booth. A copy of the full text shall be included with any absentee ballots.

2. The commissioner may prepare a summary for public measures if the commissioner finds that a summary is needed to clarify the question to the voters.

[C73, §49.43; C75, 77, 79, 81, §49.44; 81 Acts, ch 34, §27]

89 Acts, ch 136, §38; 97 Acts, ch 170, §40; 2007 Acts, ch 190, §24; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §27

Iowa Constitution, Art. X, §1

BLANK

**49.45 General form of ballot.**

Ballots referred to in section 49.43 shall be substantially in the following form:

Shall the following amendment to the Constitution (or public measure) be adopted?

- Yes  
 No

(Here insert the summary, if it is for a constitutional amendment or statewide public measure, and in full the proposed constitutional amendment or public measure. The number assigned by the state commissioner or the letter assigned by the county commissioner shall be included on the ballot centered above the question, "Shall the following amendment to the Constitution [or public measure] be adopted?")

[C97, §1106; S13, §1106; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §763; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, S81, §49.45; 81 Acts, ch 34, §28]

97 Acts, ch 170, §41

Iowa Constitution, Art. X, §1

**49.46 Marking ballots on public measures.**

The elector shall designate a vote by making the appropriate mark in the voting target. On paper ballots an "X" or a check mark may be placed in the proper target.

[C97, §1106; S13, §1106; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §764; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.46]

97 Acts, ch 170, §42; 2006 Acts, ch 1010, §38

Iowa Constitution, Art. X, §1

**49.47 Notice on ballots.**

1. At the top of paper ballots for public measures shall be printed the following:

[Notice to voters. To vote to approve any question on this ballot, make a cross mark or check in the target before the word "Yes". To vote against a question make a similar mark in the target preceding the word "No".]

2. This notice shall be adapted to describe the proper mark where it is appropriate.

[S13, §1106; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §765; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.47]

97 Acts, ch 170, §43; 98 Acts, ch 1100, §7; 2008 Acts, ch 1032, §201

Iowa Constitution, Art. X, §1

**49.48 Notice for judicial officers and constitutional amendments.**

The state commissioner of elections shall prescribe a notice to inform voters of the location on the ballot of the form for retaining or removing judicial officers and for ratifying or defeating proposed constitutional amendments. The notice shall be conspicuously attached to the ballot.

83 Acts, ch 186, §10026, 10201; 89 Acts, ch 136, §39; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §28

Iowa Constitution, Art. X, §1

**49.49** Repealed by 75 Acts, ch 81, § 154.

**49.50 Endorsement and delivery of ballots.**

Ballots on such public measures shall be endorsed and given to each voter by the precinct election officials, as in case of ballots generally, and shall be subject to all other laws governing ballots for candidates, so far as the same shall be applicable.

[S13, §1106; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §768; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.50]

Iowa Constitution, Art. X, §1

**49.51 Commissioner to control printing.**

The commissioner shall have charge of the printing of the ballots to be used for any election held in the county, unless the commissioner delegates that authority as permitted by this section. The commissioner may delegate this authority only to another commissioner who is responsible under section 47.2 for conducting the elections held for a political subdivision which lies in more than one county, and only with respect to printing of ballots containing only public questions or the names of candidates to be voted upon by the registered voters of that political subdivision. Only one facsimile signature, that of the commissioner under whose direction the ballot is printed, shall appear on the ballot. It is the duty of the commissioner to insure that the arrangement of any ballots printed under the commissioner's direction conforms to all applicable requirements of this chapter.

[C97, §1107; S13, §1106, 2754; SS15, §1107; C24, 27, §767, 769, 771, 4203; C31, 35, §767, 769, 771, 4216-c8; C39, §767, 769, 771, 4216.08; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §49.51, 49.53, 277.8; C75, §49.49, 49.51; C77, 79, 81, §49.51]

83 Acts, ch 139, §1, 14; 93 Acts, ch 163, §38; 95 Acts, ch 67, §53; 98 Acts, ch 1119, §1

**49.52** Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, § 401.

**49.53 Publication of ballot and notice.**

1. The commissioner shall not less than four nor more than twenty days before the day of each election, except those for which different publication requirements are prescribed by law, publish notice of the election. The notice shall contain a facsimile of the portion of the ballot containing the first rotation as prescribed by section 49.31, subsection 2, and shall show the names of all candidates or nominees and the office each seeks, and all public questions, to be voted upon at the election. The sample ballot published as a part of the notice may at the discretion of the commissioner be reduced in size relative to the actual ballot but such reduction shall not cause upper case letters appearing in candidates' names or in summaries of public measures on the published sample ballot to be less than nine point type. The notice shall also state the date of the election, the hours the polls will be open, the location of each polling place at which voting is to occur in the election, and the names of the precincts voting at each polling place, but the statement need not set forth any fact which is apparent from the portion of the ballot appearing as a part of the same notice. The notice shall include the full text of all public measures to be voted upon at the election.

2. The notice shall be published in at least one newspaper, as defined in section 618.3, which is published in the county or other political subdivision in which the election is to occur or, if no newspaper is published there, in at least one newspaper of substantial circulation in the county or political subdivision. For the general election or the primary election the foregoing notice shall be published in at least two newspapers published in the county. However, if there is only one newspaper published in the county, publication in one newspaper shall be sufficient.

[C51, §1110; R60, §463, 2027, 2030; C73, §578, 1718, 1719; C97, §1062, 1112, 2746, 2750, 2751, 2755; S13, §1087-a12, 2750, 2755; C24, §508, 550, 551, 790, 4195, 4197, 4208; C27, §508, 550, 551, 790, 4195, 4197, 4208, 4211-b1, 4216-b3; C31, 35, §508, 550, 551, 590, 4216-c3; C39, §508, 550, 551, 790, 4216.03; C46, 50, 54, §39.5, 43.23, 43.24, 49.72, 277.3; C58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §39.5, 43.23, 43.24, 43.29, 49.72, 277.3; C75, 77, 79, 81, §49.53]

87 Acts, ch 221, §15; 89 Acts, ch 136, §40; 93 Acts, ch 143, §17; 98 Acts, ch 1123, §5; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §33, 115; 2007 Acts, ch 190, §2; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §29

Publication of ballot, city elections, §376.5

#### **49.54 Cost of publication.**

The cost of the publication required by section 49.53, shall not exceed an amount determined by the director of the department of administrative services or the director's designee.

[C73, §3832; C97, §1112, 1293; S13, §1293; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §772, 796; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §49.54, 49.72; C75, 77, 79, 81, §49.54]

2003 Acts, ch 145, §286

#### **49.55 Delivery of supplies to officials.**

In all cases the necessary election supplies, including paper ballots for precincts where they are to be used, shall be furnished the precinct election officials not less than one hour before the opening of the polls on the morning of the election.

[C97, §1107; SS15, §1107; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §773; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.55]

#### **49.56 Maximum cost of printing.**

The cost of printing the official election ballots and printed supplies shall not exceed the usual and customary rates that the printer charges its regular customers.

[SS15, §1107; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §774; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.56]

88 Acts, ch 1119, §18; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §30

#### **49.57 Method and style of printing ballots.**

Ballots shall be prepared as follows:

1. They shall be on paper uniform in color, through which the printing or writing cannot be read.

2. In the area of the general election ballot for straight party voting, the party or organization names shall be printed in upper case and lower case letters using a uniform font size for each political party or nonparty political organization. The font size shall be not less than twelve point type. After the name of each candidate for a partisan office the name of the candidate's political party shall be printed in at least six point type. The names of political parties and nonparty political organizations may be abbreviated on the remainder of the ballot if both the full name and the abbreviation appear in the "Straight Party" and "Other Political Party" areas of the ballot.

3. The names of candidates shall be printed in upper case and lower case letters using a uniform font size throughout the ballot. The font size shall be not less than ten point type.

4. In no case shall the font size for public measures, constitutional amendments, and constitutional convention questions, and summaries thereof, be less than ten point type.

5. On ballots that will be counted by automatic tabulating equipment, ballots shall include a voting target next to the name of each candidate. The position, shape, and size of the targets shall be appropriate for the equipment to be used in counting the votes. Where paper ballots are used, a square may be printed at the beginning of each line in which the name of a candidate is printed, except as otherwise provided.

6. A portion of the ballot shall include the words "Official ballot", the unique identification number or name assigned by the commissioner to the ballot style, the date of the election, and a facsimile of the signature of the commissioner who has caused the ballot to be printed pursuant to section 49.51.

7. The office title of any office which appears on the ballot to fill a vacancy before the end of the usual term of the office shall include the words "To Fill Vacancy".

[C97, §1109; S13, §1109; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §775; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.57]

97 Acts, ch 170, §44; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §34, 115; 2007 Acts, ch 59, §8–10, 19; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §31

Single voting target for certain paired offices, §49.33

Signature in primary elections, §43.36

#### **49.57A Form of official ballot — implementation by rule.**

The state commissioner shall adopt rules in accordance with chapter 17A to implement sections 49.30 through 49.41, section 49.57, and any other provision of the law prescribing the form of the official ballot.

2009 Acts, ch 57, §32

#### **49.58 Effect of death of certain candidates.**

If any candidate nominated by a political party, as defined in section 43.2, for the office of senator or representative in the Congress of the United States, governor, attorney general, or senator or representative in the general assembly dies during the period beginning on the eighty-eighth day and ending on the last day before the general election, or if any candidate so nominated for the office of county supervisor dies during the period beginning on the seventy-third day and ending on the last day before the general election, the vote cast at the general election for that office shall not be canvassed as would otherwise be required by chapter 50. Instead, a special election shall be held on the first Tuesday after the second Monday in December, for the purpose of electing a person to fill that office.

*a.* The procedure for registering to vote after the registration deadline has passed.

*b.* Instructions for voters who are required by law to show identification before voting.

*c.* General information on voting rights under applicable federal and state laws, including the following:

(1) Information on the right of an individual to cast a provisional ballot and the procedure for casting a provisional ballot.

(2) Federal and state laws regarding prohibitions on acts of fraud, misrepresentation, coercion, or duress.

*d.* Instructions on how to contact the appropriate officials if a voter believes the voter's rights have been violated.

2. The state commissioner shall prepare instructions relative to voting for each voting system in use in the state and shall furnish the county commissioner with copies of the instructions. Such instructions shall cover the following matters:

*a.* The manner of obtaining ballots.

*b.* The manner of marking ballots.

*c.* That unmarked or improperly marked ballots will not be counted.

*d.* The method of gaining assistance in marking ballots.

*e.* That any erasures or identification marks, or otherwise spoiling or defacing a ballot, will render it invalid.

*f.* Not to vote a spoiled or defaced ballot.

*g.* How to obtain a new ballot in place of a spoiled or defaced one.

*h.* Any other matters thought necessary.

[C97, §1111; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §786, 787; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §49.68, 49.69; C75, 77, 79, 81, §49.68; 81 Acts, ch 34, §29]

2008 Acts, ch 1115, §94

**49.69** Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, § 401.

**49.70 Precinct election officials furnished instructions.**

The commissioner shall cause copies of each set of instructions to be printed in large, clear type, under the heading of "Rights of Voters" and "Instructions for Voting", as applicable, and shall furnish the precinct election officials with a sufficient number of each set of instructions as will enable them to comply with section 49.71.

[C97, §1111; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §788; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.70]

2002 Acts, ch 1134, §36, 115; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §95

**49.71 Posting instruction cards and sample ballots.**

The precinct election officials, before the opening of the polls, shall cause each set of instructions required pursuant to section 49.70 to be securely posted as follows:

1. At least one copy of the instructions for voting prescribed in section 49.68, subsection 2, in each voting booth.

2. At least one copy of the instructions for voting prescribed in section 49.68, subsection 2, with an equal number of sample ballots, in and about the polling place.

3. At least one copy of the instructions relating to rights of voters, as prescribed in section 49.68, subsection 1, in and about the polling place.

[C97, §1112; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §789; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.71]

2003 Acts, ch 44, §26; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §96

Sample primary ballots, §43.30

#### **49.72 Absentee voters designated before polling place opened.**

The commissioner shall deliver to each precinct election board not less than one hour before the time at which the polls are to open for any election the list of all registered voters of that precinct who have been given or sent an absentee ballot for that election, and the election board shall immediately designate those registered voters who are so listed and therefore not entitled to vote in person at the polls, as required by section 53.19.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §49.72]

95 Acts, ch 67, §53

#### **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 school district election.

b. Any election conducted for a city, including a local option sales and services tax election conducted pursuant to section 423B.1. At elections conducted pursuant to chapter 423B, all polling places shall have the same voting hours.

c. Any election conducted for a benefited district.

d. Any election conducted for the unincorporated area of a county.

2. The commissioner shall not shorten voting hours for any election if there is filed in the commissioner's office, at least twenty-five days before the election, a petition signed by at least fifty eligible electors of the school district or city, as the case may be, requesting that the polls be opened not later than 7:00 a.m. 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, except that this requirement shall not apply to merged areas established under chapter 260C. 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

**49.74 Voters entitled to vote after closing time.**

Every voter who is on the premises of the voter's precinct polling place at the time the polling place is to be closed for any election shall be permitted to vote in that election. Wherever possible, when there are persons on the premises of a polling place awaiting an opportunity to claim their vote at the time the polling place is to be closed, the election board shall cause those persons to move inside the structure in which the polling place is located and shall then shut the doors of the structure and shall not admit any additional persons to the polling place for the purpose of voting. If it is not feasible to cause persons on the premises of a polling place awaiting an opportunity to claim their vote at the time the polling place is to be closed to move inside the structure in which the polling place is located, the election board shall cause those persons to be designated in some reasonable manner and shall not receive votes after that time from any persons except those voters so designated.

[C27, 31, 35, §791-a1; C39, §791.1; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.74]

94 Acts, ch 1169, §64; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §82

**49.75 Oath.**

Before opening the polls, each of the board members shall take the following oath: "I, A. B., do solemnly swear or affirm that I will impartially, and to the best of my knowledge and ability, perform the duties of precinct election official of this election, and will studiously endeavor to prevent fraud, deceit, and abuse in conducting the election."

[C51, §249; R60, §484; C73, §609; C97, §1094, 2756; S13, §2756; C24, 27, §792, 4209; C31, 35, §792, 4216-c11; C39, §792, 4216.11; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §49.75, 277.11; C75, 77, 79, 81, §49.75]

89 Acts, ch 136, §42

Counting board oath, §51.5

**49.76 How administered.**

Any one of the precinct election officials present may administer the oath to the others, and it shall be entered in the election records, subscribed by the person taking it, and certified by the officer administering it.

[C51, §250; R60, §485; C73, §610; C97, §1095; SS15, §1087-a5; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §559, 793; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §43.31, 49.76; C75, 77, 79, 81, §49.76]

**49.77 Ballot furnished to voter.**

1. The board members of their respective precincts shall have charge of the ballots and furnish them to the voters.

a. Any person desiring to vote shall sign a voter's declaration provided by the officials, in substantially the following form:

**“VOTER'S DECLARATION  
OF ELIGIBILITY**

I do solemnly swear or affirm that I am a resident of the ..... precinct, ..... ward or township, city of ....., county of ....., Iowa.

I am a registered voter. I have not voted and will not vote in any other precinct in said election.

I understand that any false statement in this declaration is a criminal offense punishable as provided by law.

.....  
 Signature of Voter  
 .....  
 Address  
 .....  
 Telephone

Approved:

.....  
 Board Member”

*b.* At the discretion of the commissioner, this declaration may be printed on each page of the election register and the voter shall sign the election register next to the voter’s printed name. The voter’s signature in the election register shall be considered the voter’s signed declaration of eligibility affidavit. The state commissioner of elections shall prescribe by rule an alternate method for providing the information in subsection 2 for those counties where the declaration of eligibility is printed in the election register. The state voter registration system shall be designed to allow for the affidavit to be printed on each page of the election register and to allow sufficient space for the voter’s signature.

2. If the declaration of eligibility is not printed on each page of the election register, any of those persons present pursuant to section 49.104, subsection 2, 3, or 5, may upon request view the signed declarations of eligibility and may review the signed declarations on file so long as the person does not interfere with the functions of the precinct election officials. If the declaration of eligibility is printed on the election register, voters shall also sign a voter roster which the precinct election official shall make available for viewing. Any of those persons present pursuant to section 49.104, subsection 2, 3, or 5, may upon request view the roster of those voters who have signed declarations of eligibility, so long as the person does not interfere with the functions of the precinct election officials.

3. *a.* A precinct election official shall require any person whose name does not appear on the election register as an active voter to show identification. Specific documents which are acceptable forms of identification shall be prescribed by the state commissioner.

*b.* A precinct election official may require of the voter unknown to the official, identification in the form prescribed by the state commissioner by rule. If identification is established to the satisfaction of the precinct election officials, the person may then be allowed to vote.

4. *a.* A person whose name does not appear on the election register of the precinct in which that person claims the right to vote shall not be permitted to vote, unless the person affirms that the person is currently registered in the county and presents proof of identity, or the commissioner informs the precinct election officials that an error has occurred and that the person is a registered voter of that precinct. If the commissioner finds no record of the person’s registration but the person insists that the person is a registered voter of that precinct, the precinct election officials shall allow the person to cast a ballot in the manner prescribed by section 49.81.

*b.* If the voter informs the precinct election official that the voter resides in the precinct and is not registered to vote, the voter may register to vote pursuant to section 48A.7A and cast a ballot. If such a voter is unable to establish identity and residency in the manner provided in section 48A.7A, subsection 1, paragraph “*b*” or “*c*”, the voter shall be allowed to cast a ballot in the manner prescribed by section 49.81.

*c.* A person who has been sent an absentee ballot by mail but for any reason has not received it shall be permitted to cast a ballot in person pursuant to section 53.19 and in the manner prescribed by section 49.81.

5. The request for the telephone number in the declaration of eligibility in subsection 1 is not mandatory and the failure by the voter to provide the telephone number does not affect the declaration’s validity.

[C97, §1114; C24, §794, 795; C27, 31, 35, §718-b20, 794, 795; C39, §718.21, 794, 795; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, §48.21, 49.77, 49.78; C73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.77]

83 Acts, ch 176, §5; 87 Acts, ch 221, §16, 17; 88 Acts, ch 1119, §19; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §50; 94 Acts, ch 1180, §14; 98 Acts, ch 1123, §6; 2006 Acts, ch 1002, §3, 4; 2007 Acts, ch 35, §6, 7; 2008 Acts, ch 1032, §152; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §98; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §33

**49.78** Repealed by 72 Acts, ch 1025, § 35.

#### **49.79 Challenges.**

1. Any person offering to vote may be challenged as unqualified by any precinct election official or registered voter. It is the duty of each official to challenge any person offering to vote whom the official knows or suspects is not duly qualified. A ballot shall be received from a voter who is challenged, but only in accordance with section 49.81.

2. A person may be challenged for any of the following reasons:

*a.* The challenged person is not a citizen of the United States.

*b.* The challenged person is less than eighteen years of age as of the date of the election at which the person is offering to vote.

*c.* The challenged person is not a resident at the address where the person is registered. However, a person who is reporting a change of address at the polls on election day pursuant to section 48A.27, subsection 2, paragraph “*a*”, subparagraph (3), or who is registering to vote pursuant to section 48A.7A, shall not be challenged for this reason.

*d.* The challenged person is not a resident of the precinct where the person is offering to vote.

*e.* The challenged person has falsified information on the person’s registration form or on the person’s declaration of eligibility.

*f.* The challenged person has been convicted of a felony, and the person’s voting rights have not been restored.

*g.* The challenged person has been adjudged by a court of law to be a person who is incompetent to vote and no subsequent proceeding has reversed that finding.

3. *a.* The state commissioner of elections shall prescribe a form to be used for challenging a prospective voter at the polls. The form shall include a space for the challenger to provide the challenger’s printed name, signature, address, and telephone number. The form shall also contain the following statement signed by the challenger:

“I am a registered voter in (name of county) County, Iowa. I swear or affirm that information contained in this challenge is true. I understand that knowingly filing a challenge containing false information is an aggravated misdemeanor.”

*b.* The special precinct board shall reject a challenge that lacks the name, address, telephone number, and signature of the challenger.

4. A separate written challenge shall be made against each prospective voter challenged.

5. A challenger may withdraw a challenge at the polling place on election day or at any time before the meeting of the special precinct counting board by notifying the commissioner in writing of the withdrawal.

[C51, §258; R60, §493; C73, §619; C97, §1115; S13, §1087-a9; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §571, 796; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §43.43, 49.79; C75, 77, 79, 81, §49.79]

2002 Acts, ch 1134, §39, 115; 2007 Acts, ch 59, §12, 19; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §86, 87

#### **49.80 Examination on challenge.**

1. When the status of any person as a registered voter is so challenged, the precinct election officials shall explain to the person the qualifications of an elector, and may examine the person under oath touching the person's qualifications as a voter.

2. In case of any challenges of an elector at the time the person is offering to vote in a precinct, a precinct election official may place such person under oath and question the person as, *(a)* where the person maintains the person's home; *(b)* how long the person has maintained the person's home at such place; *(c)* if the person maintains a home at any other location; *(d)* the person's age. The precinct election official may permit the challenger to participate in such questions. The challenged elector shall be allowed to present to the official such evidence and facts as the elector feels sustains the fact that the person is qualified to vote. Upon completion thereof, if the challenge is withdrawn, the elector may cast the vote in the usual manner. If the challenge is not withdrawn, section 49.81 shall apply.

[C51, §259; R60, §494; C73, §620; C97, §1115; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §797; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.80]

90 Acts, ch 1238, §21; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

**49.84 Marking and return of ballot.**

1. *a.* After receiving the ballot, the voter shall immediately go to the next available voting booth and without delay mark the ballot. All voters shall vote in booths.

*b.* Before leaving the voting booth, the voter may enclose the ballot in a secrecy folder to conceal the marks on the ballot.

*c.* If the precinct has automatic tabulating equipment that will not permit more than one ballot to be inserted at a time, the voter may insert the ballot into the tabulating device; otherwise, the election official shall place the ballot in the ballot box. An identifying mark or symbol shall not be endorsed on the voter's ballot.

2. This section does not prohibit a voter from taking minor children into the voting booth with the voter.

[C51, §257; R60, §492; C73, §617; C97, §1117, 1119; S13, §1119; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §801; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.84]

94 Acts, ch 1180, §16; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §41, 115; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §34

**49.85 Depositing ballots.**

One of the precinct election officials shall at once, after receiving the ballot, in the presence of the voter, deposit it in the ballot box.

[C51, §257; R60, §492; C73, §617; C97, §1117; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §802; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.85]

**49.86 Failure to vote — surrender of ballot.**

Any voter who, after receiving an official ballot, decides not to vote, shall, before entering the voting booth, surrender to the election officers the official ballot which has been given to the voter, and such fact shall be noted on the election records. A refusal to surrender such ballot shall subject the person so offending to immediate arrest and the penalties provided for violation of this chapter.

[C97, §1117; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §803; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.86]

Penalty, §39A.3

**49.87 Prohibited ballot — taking ballot from polling place.**

No voter shall vote or offer to vote any ballot except such as the voter has received from the precinct election officials, nor take or remove any ballot from the polling place before the close of the poll.

[C97, §1117; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §804; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.87]

**49.88 Limitation on persons in booth and time for voting.**

1. No more than one person shall be allowed to occupy any voting booth at any time. The use of cameras, cellular telephones, pagers, or other electronic communications devices in the voting booth is prohibited.

2. *a.* Nothing in this section shall prohibit assistance to voters under section 49.90.

*b.* This section does not prohibit a voter from taking minor children into the voting booth with the voter.

[C97, §1117; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §805; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.88]

2002 Acts, ch 1134, §42, 115; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §99

**49.89 Selection of officials to assist voters.**

At, or before, the opening of the polls, the election board of each precinct shall select two members of the board, of different political parties in the case of any election in which candidates appear on the ballot under the heading of either of the political parties referred to in section 49.13, to assist voters who may be unable to cast their votes without assistance as described in section 49.90.

[C97, §1118; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §806; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, S81, §49.89; 81 Acts, ch 34, §30]  
84 Acts, ch 1291, §8

**49.90 Assisting voter.**

Any voter who may declare upon oath that the voter is blind, cannot read the English language, or is, by reason of any physical disability other than intoxication, unable to cast a vote without assistance, shall, upon request, be assisted by the two officers as provided in section 49.89, or alternatively by any other person the voter may select in casting the vote. The officers, or the person selected by the voter, shall cast the vote of the voter requiring assistance, and shall thereafter give no information regarding the vote cast. If any elector because of a disability cannot enter the building where the polling place for the elector's precinct of residence is located, the two officers shall take a paper ballot to the vehicle occupied by the elector with a disability and allow the elector to cast the ballot in the vehicle. Ballots cast by voters with disabilities shall be deposited in the regular ballot box, or inserted in the tabulating device, and counted in the usual manner.

[C97, §1118; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §807; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, S81, §49.90; 81 Acts, ch 34, §31]

84 Acts, ch 1291, §9; 96 Acts, ch 1129, §16; 2007 Acts, ch 190, §25; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §35

**49.91 Assistance indicated on register.**

The precinct election officials shall mark upon the election register the name of any elector who received such assistance in casting the elector's vote.

[C97, §1118; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §808; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.91]

**49.98 Counting ballots.**

The ballots shall be counted according to the voters' marks on them as provided in sections 49.92 to 49.97, and not otherwise. If, for any reason, it is impossible to determine from a ballot, as marked, the choice of the voter for any office, the vote for that office shall not be counted. When there is a conflict between a straight party or organization vote for one political party or nonparty political organization and the vote cast by marking the voting target next to the name of a candidate for another political party or nonparty political organization on the ballot, the mark next to the name of the candidate shall be held to control, and the straight party or organization vote in that case shall not apply as to that office. A ballot shall be rejected if the voter used a mark to identify the voter's ballot. For each voting system, the state commissioner shall, by rule adopted pursuant to chapter 17A, develop uniform definitions of what constitutes a vote.

[C97, §1120; S13, §1120; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §815; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.98]

97 Acts, ch 170, §52; 2004 Acts, ch 1083, §21, 37

**49.99 Writing name on ballot.**

1. The voter may also write on the line provided for write-in votes the name of any person for whom the voter desires to vote and mark the voting target opposite the name. If the voter is using a voting system other than an optical scan voting system, as defined in section 52.1, the writing of the name shall constitute a valid vote for the person whose name has been written on the ballot without regard to whether the voter has made a mark opposite the name. However, when a write-in vote is cast using an optical scan voting system, the ballot must also be marked in the corresponding space in order to be counted. Marking the voting target opposite a write-in line without writing a name on the line shall not affect the validity of the remainder of the ballot.

2. If a voter writes the name of a person more than once in the proper places on a ballot for an office to which more than one person is to be elected, all but one of those votes for that person for that office are void and shall not be counted.

[C97, §1119; S13, §1119; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §816; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.99]

86 Acts, ch 1224, §13; 90 Acts, ch 1238, §22; 97 Acts, ch 170, §53; 2007 Acts, ch 190, §26; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §36

**49.100 Spoiled ballots.**

A voter who spoils a ballot may return the spoiled ballot to the precinct election officials and receive another ballot. However, a voter shall not receive more than three ballots, including the one first delivered. Only ballots provided in accordance with the provisions of this chapter shall be counted.

[C97, §1121; S13, §1121; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §817; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.100]

97 Acts, ch 170, §54

**49.101 Defective ballot does not nullify vote.**

No ballot properly marked by the voter shall be rejected:

1. Because of any discrepancy between the printed ballot and the nomination paper, or certificate of nomination, or certified abstract of the canvassing board.

2. Because of any error in stamping or writing the endorsement thereon by the officials charged with such duties.

3. Because of any error on the part of the officer charged with such duty in delivering the wrong ballots at any polling place.

[C97, §1122; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §818; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.101]

#### **49.102 Defective ballots.**

Said defective ballots shall be counted for the candidate or candidates for such offices named in the nomination papers, certificate of nomination, or certified abstract.

[C97, §1122; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §819; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.102]

#### **49.103 Wrong ballots.**

Said wrong ballots shall be counted as cast for all candidates for whom the voter had the right to vote, and for whom the voter did vote.

[C97, §1122; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §820; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.103]

#### **49.104 Persons permitted at polling places.**

The following persons shall be permitted to be present at and in the immediate vicinity of the polling places, provided they do not solicit votes:

1. Any person who is by law authorized to perform or is charged with the performance of official duties at the election.

2. Any number of persons, not exceeding three at a time from each political party having candidates to be voted for at such election, to act as challenging committees, who are appointed and accredited by the executive or central committee of such political party or organization.

3. Any number of persons not exceeding three at a time from each of such political parties, appointed and accredited in the same manner as above prescribed for challenging committees, to witness the counting of ballots. Subject to the restrictions of section 51.11, the witnesses may observe the counting of ballots by a counting board during the hours the polls are open in any precinct for which double election boards have been appointed.

4. Any peace officer assigned or called upon to keep order or maintain compliance with the provisions of this chapter, upon request of the commissioner or of the chairperson of the precinct election board.

5. One observer at a time representing any nonparty political organization, any candidate nominated by petition pursuant to chapter 45, or any other nonpartisan candidate in a city or school election, appearing on the ballot of the election in progress. Candidates who send observers to the polls shall provide each observer with a letter of appointment in the form prescribed by the state commissioner.

6. Any persons expressing an interest in a ballot issue to be voted upon at an election except a general or primary election. Any such person shall file a notice of intent to serve as an observer with the commissioner before election day. If more than three persons file a notice of intent to serve at the same time with respect to ballot issues at an election, the commissioner shall appoint from those submitting a notice of intent the three persons who may serve at that time as observers, and shall provide a schedule to all persons who filed notices of intent. The appointees, whenever possible, shall include both opponents and proponents of the ballot issues.

**49.124 Training course by commissioner — continuing education program.**

1. The commissioner shall conduct, not later than the day before each primary and general election, a training course for all election personnel, and the commissioner may do so before any other election the commissioner administers. The personnel shall include all precinct election officials and any other persons who will be employed in or around the polling places on election day. At least two precinct election officials who will serve on each precinct election board at the forthcoming election shall attend the training course. If the entire board does not attend, those members who do attend shall so far as possible be persons who have not previously attended a similar training course.

2. A continuing education program shall be provided to election personnel who are full-time or part-time permanent employees of the commissioner's office. The state commissioner of elections shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A to implement and administer the continuing education program.

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.124]

94 Acts, ch 1180, §18; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §44, 115; 2008 Acts, ch 1176, §2, 10

**49.125 Compensation of trainees.**

All election personnel attending such training course shall be paid for attending such course, and shall be reimbursed for travel to and from the place where the training is given at the rate determined by the board of supervisors if the distance involved is more than five miles. The wages shall be computed at the hourly rate established pursuant to section 49.20 and payment of wages and mileage for attendance shall be made at the time that payment is made for duties performed on election day.

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.125]

97 Acts, ch 170, §56; 2003 Acts, ch 44, §27

**49.126 Manual by state commissioner.**

It shall be the duty of the state commissioner to provide a training manual and such additional materials as may be necessary to all commissioners for conducting the required training course and to revise the manual from time to time as may be necessary.

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.126]

**49.127 Commissioner to examine equipment.**

It shall be the duty of each commissioner to determine that all voting equipment is operational and functioning properly and that all materials necessary for the conduct of the election are in the commissioner's possession and are correct.

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.127]

2009 Acts, ch 57, §37

**49.128 through 49.130 Reserved.**

**49.131** Repealed by 86 Acts, ch 1023, § 12. See § 68A.405.

BLANK

CHAPTER 50

CANVASS OF VOTES

Chapter applicable to primary elections, §43.5  
 Criminal offenses, §39A.2–39A.5  
 Definitions in §39.3 applicable to this chapter

- |        |   |        |   |
|--------|---|--------|---|
| 50.1   | Definitions.  | 50.23  | Messengers for missing tally lists.                       |
| 50.1A  | Canvass by officials.   | 50.24  | Canvass by board of supervisors.                          |
| 50.2   | One tally list in certain machine precincts. Repealed by 2009 Acts, ch 57, §96. | 50.25  | Abstract of votes in the general election.                |
| 50.3   | Double or defective ballots.  | 50.26  | Duplicate abstracts.                                      |
| 50.4   | Ballots objected to.  | 50.27  | Declaration of election.                                  |
| 50.5   | Disputed ballots returned separately.   | 50.28  | Tally lists filed.  |
| 50.6   | Votes in excess of voter declarations.  | 50.29  | Certificate of election.                                  |
| 50.7   | Error on county office — township office.                                       | 50.30  | Abstracts forwarded to state commissioner.                |
| 50.8   | Error on state or district office — tie vote.                                   | 50.30A | Election canvass summary forwarded to state commissioner. |
| 50.9   | Return of ballots not voted.  | 50.31  | Abstracts for governor and lieutenant governor.           |
| 50.10  | Record of ballots returned.   | 50.32  | Endorsement on other envelope.                            |
| 50.11  | Proclamation of result.   | 50.33  | Forwarding of envelopes.                                  |
| 50.12  | Return and preservation of ballots.   | 50.34  | Missing abstracts.  |
| 50.13  | Destruction of ballots.   | 50.35  | Delivery of abstracts.                                    |
| 50.14  | Repealed by 89 Acts, ch 136, §75.   | 50.36  | Envelopes containing other abstracts — canvass.           |
| 50.15  | Destruction in abeyance pending contest.  | 50.37  | State canvassing board.                                   |
| 50.15A | Unofficial results of voting — general election only.                           | 50.38  | Time of state canvass.                                    |
| 50.16  | Tally list of board.  | 50.39  | Abstract.   |
| 50.17  | Return of election register.  | 50.40  | Record of canvass.  |
| 50.18  | Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.  | 50.41  | Certificate of election.                                  |
| 50.19  | Preservation and destruction of books.  | 50.42  | Certificates mailed.                                      |
| 50.20  | Notice of number of provisional ballots.  | 50.43  | Senator or representative.                                |
| 50.21  | Special precinct board reconvened.  | 50.44  | Tie vote.   |
| 50.22  | Special precinct board to determine challenges and canvass absentee ballots.    | 50.45  | Canvass public — result determined.                       |
|        |   | 50.46  | Special elections — canvass and certificate.              |
|        |   | 50.47  | Messengers for election tally lists.                      |
|        |   | 50.48  | General recount provisions.                               |
|        |   | 50.49  | Recounts for public measures.                             |
|        |   | 50.50  | Administrative recounts.                                  |

**50.1 Definitions.**

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, “*book*”, “*list*”, “*record*”, or “*schedule*” kept by a county auditor, assessor, treasurer, recorder, sheriff, or other county officer means the county system as defined in section 445.1.

2000 Acts, ch 1148, §1

**50.1A Canvass by officials.**

At every election conducted under chapter 49, except the primary election provided for by chapter 43, and at every other election unless the law authorizing the election otherwise requires, the vote shall be canvassed at each polling place by the election board in the manner prescribed by this chapter. When the poll is closed, the precinct election officials shall forthwith, and without adjournment:

1. Publicly canvass the vote, and credit each candidate with the number of votes counted for the candidate.
2. Ascertain the result of the vote.
3. Prepare in writing a list of any apparently or possibly erroneous information appearing in the precinct election register.
4. Designate two election board members, not members of the same political party, who shall each separately keep a tally list of the count.

[C51, §261, 266; R60, §496, 501; C73, §622, 626; C97, §1138; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §840; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.1] C2001, §50.1A

**50.2 One tally list in certain machine precincts.** Repealed by 2009 Acts, ch 57, § 96.

**50.3 Double or defective ballots.**

If two or more marked ballots are so folded together as to appear to be cast as one, the precinct election officials shall endorse thereon "Rejected as double". Such ballots shall not be counted, but shall be folded together and kept as hereinafter directed. Every ballot not counted shall be endorsed "Defective" on the back thereof.

[C51, §262; R60, §497; C73, §623; C97, §1139; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §842; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.3]

**50.4 Ballots objected to.**

Every ballot objected to by a precinct election official or challenger, but counted, shall be endorsed on the back thereof, "Objected to", and there shall also be endorsed thereon, and signed by the officials, a statement as to how it was counted.

[C97, §1139; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §843; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.4]

**50.5 Disputed ballots returned separately.**

All ballots endorsed as required by sections 50.3 and 50.4 shall be enclosed and securely sealed in an envelope, on which the precinct election officials shall endorse "Disputed ballots", with a signed statement of the precinct in which, and date of the election at which, they were cast.

[C97, §1139; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §844; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.5]

**50.13 Destruction of ballots.**

If, at the expiration of the length of time specified in section 50.12, a contest is not pending, the commissioner, without opening the package in which they have been enclosed, shall destroy the ballots.

If the ballots are to be shredded, the package may be opened, if necessary, but the ballots shall not be examined before shredding. Shredded ballots may be recycled. The commissioner shall invite the chairperson of each of the political parties to designate a person to witness the destruction of the ballots.

[C97, §1143; S13, §1143; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §852; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.13]

89 Acts, ch 136, §45; 91 Acts, ch 129, §14; 97 Acts, ch 170, §57

**50.14** Repealed by 89 Acts, ch 136, § 75.

**50.15 Destruction in abeyance pending contest.**

If a contest is pending, the ballots shall be kept until the contest is finally determined, and then so destroyed.

[C97, §1143; S13, §1143; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §854; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.15]

**50.15A Unofficial results of voting — general election only.**

1. In order to provide the public with an early source of election results before the official canvass of votes, the state commissioner of elections, in cooperation with the commissioners of elections, shall conduct an unofficial canvass of election results following the closing of the polls on the day of a general election. The unofficial canvass shall report election results for national offices, statewide offices, the office of state representative, the office of state senator, and other offices or public measures at the discretion of the state commissioner of elections. The unofficial canvass shall also report the total number of ballots cast at the general election.

2. *a.* After the polls close on election day, the commissioner of elections shall periodically provide election results to the state commissioner of elections as the precincts in the county report election results to the commissioner pursuant to section 50.11. If the commissioner determines that all precincts will not report election results before the office is closed, the commissioner shall report the most complete results available prior to leaving the office at the time the office is closed as provided in section 50.11. The commissioner shall specify the number of precincts included in the report to the state commissioner of elections.

*b.* The state commissioner of elections shall tabulate unofficial election results as the results are received from the commissioners of elections and shall periodically make the reports of the results available to the public.

3. Before the day of the general election, the state commissioner of elections shall provide a form and instructions for reporting unofficial election results pursuant to this section.

2008 Acts, ch 1115, §102; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §38

**50.16 Tally list of board.**

The tally list shall be prepared in writing by the election board giving, in legibly printed numerals, the total number of people who cast ballots in the precinct, the total number of ballots cast for each office, except those rejected, the name of each person voted for, and the number of votes given to each person

for each different office. The tally list shall be signed by the precinct election officials, and be substantially as follows:

At an election at ..... in ..... township, or in ..... precinct of ..... city or township, in ..... county, state of Iowa, on the ..... day of ....., there were ..... ballots cast for the office of ..... of which (Candidate's name) ..... had ..... votes. (Candidate's name) ..... had ..... votes. (and in the same manner for any other officer).

A true tally list:

(Name)..... Election Board  
(Name)..... Members.  
(Name).....

Attest:

(Name)..... Designated  
(Name)..... Tally Keepers.

[C51, §267, 303; R60, §502, 537; C73, §628, 661; C97, §1144; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §855; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.16]

93 Acts, ch 143, §21; 2000 Acts, ch 1058, §8; 2001 Acts, ch 24, §18; 2007 Acts, ch 59, §13, 19

**50.17 Return of election register.**

The precinct election register prepared for each election, together with the ballots to be returned pursuant to section 50.12, if any, and the signed and attested tally list, shall be delivered to the commissioner by one of the precinct election officials by noon of the day following the election.

[C51, §268; R60, §333, 503, 1131; C73, §503, 629; C97, §1145; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §856; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.17]

**50.18 Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, § 401.**

**50.19 Preservation and destruction of books.**

The commissioner may destroy precinct election registers, the declarations of eligibility signed by voters, and other material pertaining to any election in which federal offices are not on the ballot, except the tally lists which have not been electronically recorded, six months after the election if a contest is not pending. If a contest is pending all election materials shall be preserved until final determination of the contest. Before destroying the election registers and declarations of eligibility, the commissioner shall prepare records as necessary to permit compliance with chapter 48A, subchapter V. Nomination papers for primary election candidates for state and county offices shall be destroyed ten days before the general election, if a contest is not pending.

Material pertaining to elections for federal offices, including ballots, precinct election registers, declarations of eligibility signed by voters, documents relating to absentee ballots, and challenges of voters, shall be preserved for twenty-two months after the election. If a contest is not pending the materials may be destroyed at the end of the retention period.

[C51, §268; R60, §333, 503, 1131; C73, §503, 629; C97, §1145; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §858; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.19]

89 Acts, ch 136, §46; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §52; 98 Acts, ch 1119, §29

**50.20 Notice of number of provisional ballots.**

The commissioner shall compile a list of the number of provisional ballots cast under section 49.81 in each precinct. The list shall be made available to the public as soon as possible, but in no case later than nine o'clock a.m. on the second day following the election. Any elector may examine the list during normal office hours, and may also examine the affidavit envelopes bearing the ballots of challenged electors until the reconvening of the special precinct board as required by this chapter. Only those persons so permitted by section 53.23, subsection 4, shall have access to the affidavits while that board is in session. Any elector may present written statements or documents, supporting or opposing the counting of any provisional ballot, at the commissioner's office until the reconvening of the special precinct board.

[C77, 79, 81, §50.20]

87 Acts, ch 221, §22; 2004 Acts, ch 1083, §22, 37; 2005 Acts, ch 19, §21

**50.21 Special precinct board reconvened.**

The commissioner shall reconvene the election board of the special precinct established by section 53.20 not earlier than noon on the second day following each election which is required by law to be canvassed on the Monday or Tuesday following the election. If the second day following such an election is a legal holiday the special precinct election board may be convened at noon on the day following the election, and if the canvass of the election is scheduled at any time earlier than the Monday following the election, the special precinct election board shall be reconvened at noon on the day following the election.

If no provisional ballots were cast in the county pursuant to section 49.81 at any election, the special precinct election board need not be so reconvened. If the number of provisional ballots cast at any election is not sufficient to require reconvening of the entire election board of the special precinct, the commissioner may reconvene only the number of members required. If the number of provisional ballots cast at any election exceeds the number of absentee ballots cast, the size of the special precinct election board may be increased at the commissioner's discretion. The commissioner shall observe the requirements of sections 49.12 and 49.13 in making adjustments to the size of the special precinct election board.

[C77, 79, 81, §50.21; 81 Acts, ch 34, §35]

87 Acts, ch 221, §23; 90 Acts, ch 1238, §25; 2004 Acts, ch 1083, §23, 37

**50.22 Special precinct board to determine challenges and canvass absentee ballots.**

Upon being reconvened, the special precinct election board shall review the information upon the envelopes bearing the provisional ballots, and all evidence submitted in support of or opposition to the right of each challenged person to vote in the election. The board may divide itself into panels of not less than three members each in order to hear and determine two or more challenges simultaneously, but each panel shall meet the requirements of section 49.12 as regards political party affiliation of the members of each panel.

The decision to count or reject each ballot shall be made upon the basis of the information given on the envelope containing the provisional ballot, the evidence concerning the challenge, the registration and the returned receipts of registration.

If a provisional ballot is rejected, the person casting the ballot shall be notified by the commissioner within ten days of the reason for the rejection, on the form prescribed by the state commissioner pursuant to section 53.25, and

the envelope containing the provisional ballot shall be preserved unopened and disposed of in the same manner as spoiled ballots. The provisional ballots which are accepted shall be counted in the manner prescribed by section 53.23, subsection 5. The commissioner shall make public the number of provisional ballots rejected and not counted, at the time of the canvass of the election.

The special precinct board shall also canvass any absentee ballots which were received after the polls closed in accordance with section 53.17. If necessary, they shall reconvene again on the day of the canvass by the board of supervisors to canvass any absentee ballots which were timely received. The special precinct board shall submit their tally list to the supervisors before the conclusion of the canvass by the board.

[C77, 79, 81, §50.22]

87 Acts, ch 221, §24; 88 Acts, ch 1119, §20; 89 Acts, ch 136, §47, 48; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §53; 2005 Acts, ch 19, §22; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §39

### **50.23 Messengers for missing tally lists.**

The commissioner shall send messengers for all tally lists not received in the commissioner's office by noon of the day following the election. The expense of securing such tally lists shall be paid by the county.

[C51, §270; R60, §505; C73, §634; C97, §1148; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §862; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.23]

Mileage paid messengers, §50.47

### **50.24 Canvass by board of supervisors.**

1. The county board of supervisors shall meet to canvass the vote on the first Monday or Tuesday after the day of each election to which this chapter is applicable, unless the law authorizing the election specifies another date for the canvass. If that Monday or Tuesday is a public holiday, section 4.1, subsection 34, controls.

2. Upon convening, the board shall open and canvass the tally lists and shall prepare abstracts stating the number of votes cast in the county, or in that portion of the county in which the election was held, for each office and on each question on the ballot for the election. The board shall contact the chairperson of the special precinct board before adjourning and include in the canvass any absentee ballots which were received after the polls closed in accordance with section 53.17 and which were canvassed by the special precinct board after election day. The abstract shall further indicate the name of each person who received votes for each office on the ballot, and the number of votes each person named received for that office, and the number of votes for and against each question submitted to the voters at the election. The votes of all write-in candidates who each received less than five percent of the votes cast for an office shall be reported collectively under the heading "scattering".

3. The board shall certify an election canvass summary report prepared by the commissioner. The election canvass summary report shall include the results of the election, including scatterings, overvotes, and undervotes, by precinct for each contest and public measure that appeared on the ballot of the election being canvassed.

4. The board shall prepare a certificate showing the total number of people who cast ballots in the election. For general elections and elections held pursuant to section 69.14, a copy of the certificate shall be forwarded to the state commissioner.

5. Any obvious clerical errors in the tally lists from the precincts shall be corrected by the supervisors. Complete records of any changes shall be recorded in the minutes of the canvass.

[C51, §271, 304, 305; R60, §335, 506, 538, 539, 1131; C73, §502, 503, 631, 635, 662; C97, §1146, 1149; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §859, 860, 863; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §50.20, 50.21, 50.24; C75, 77, 79, 81, §50.24]

84 Acts, ch 1291, §10; 89 Acts, ch 136, §49; 90 Acts, ch 1238, §26; 93 Acts, ch 143, §22; 95 Acts, ch 189, §10; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §40

#### **50.25 Abstract of votes in the general election.**

1. At the canvass of the general election, the abstract of the votes for each of the following classes shall be made on a different sheet:

- a. President and vice president of the United States.
- b. Senator in the Congress of the United States.
- c. Representative in the Congress of the United States.
- d. Governor and lieutenant governor.
- e. A state officer not otherwise provided for.
- f. Senator or representative in the general assembly by districts.

2. The abstract of the votes for each county office is not required to be made on a different sheet.

[C51, §272, 304, 305; R60, §507, 538, 539; C73, §636, 662; C97, §1150; S13, §1150; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §864; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.25]

2007 Acts, ch 59, §14, 15, 19

#### **50.26 Duplicate abstracts.**

All abstracts of votes cast in the general election, except the abstracts of votes for county officers, shall be made in duplicate, and signed by the board of county canvassers. One of said abstracts shall be forwarded to the state commissioner, and the other filed by the commissioner.

[C51, §272, 304, 305; R60, §507, 538, 539; C73, §637, 662; C97, §1151; S13, §1151; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §865; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.26]

#### **50.27 Declaration of election.**

Each abstract of the votes for such officers as the county alone elects at the general election, except district judges and senators and representatives in the general assembly, or of the votes for officers of political subdivisions whose elections are conducted by the commissioner, shall contain a declaration of whom the canvassers determine to be elected. Each abstract of votes for and against each public question submitted to and decided by the voters of the county alone, or of a single political subdivision whose elections the county board canvasses, shall contain a declaration of the result as determined by the canvassers. When a public question has been submitted to the voters of a political subdivision whose elections the county board canvasses, the commissioner shall certify a duplicate of the abstract and declaration to the governing body of the political subdivision.

[C51, §275; R60, §509; C73, §639; C97, §1152; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §866; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.27]

#### **50.28 Tally lists filed.**

When the canvass is concluded, the board shall deliver the original tally lists to the commissioner, who shall file the same, and record each of the abstracts above mentioned in the election book.

[C51, §276; R60, §335, 510; C73, §640; C97, §1154; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §867; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.28]

**50.29 Certificate of election.**

1. When any person is thus declared elected, there shall be delivered to that person a certificate of election, under the official seal of the county, in substance as follows:

STATE OF IOWA )  
..... County. )

At an election held in said county on the ..... day of ..... (month), ..... (year), ..... (candidate’s name) was elected to the office of ..... for the term of ..... years from the ..... day of ..... (month), ..... (year) [if elected to fill a vacancy, for the residue of the term ending on the ..... day of ..... (month), .....(year)], and until a successor is elected and qualified.

.....  
President of Board of Canvassers.  
Witness, .....  
County Commissioner of Elections  
(clerk).

2. The certificate of election is presumptive evidence of the person’s election and qualification.

[C51, §277; R60, §511, 514; C73, §641; C97, §1155; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §868; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.29]

87 Acts, ch 115, §9; 2000 Acts, ch 1058, §9; 2008 Acts, ch 1032, §201; 2009 Acts, ch 41, §26

**50.30 Abstracts forwarded to state commissioner.**

1. The commissioner shall, within thirteen days after the election, forward to the state commissioner one of the duplicate abstracts of votes for each of the following offices:

- a. President and vice president of the United States.
- b. Senator in Congress.
- c. Representative in Congress.
- d. Governor and lieutenant governor.
- e. Senator or representative in the general assembly by districts.
- f. A state officer not otherwise specified above.

2. The abstracts for all offices except governor and lieutenant governor shall be enclosed in a securely sealed envelope.

[C51, §283, 284, 305; R60, §517, 518, 539; C73, §645, 662; C97, §1157; S13, §1157; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §869; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.30]

91 Acts, ch 129, §15; 2008 Acts, ch 1032, §201; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §41

**50.30A Election canvass summary forwarded to state commissioner.**

The commissioner shall, within thirteen days after each primary and general election, forward to the state commissioner a true and exact copy of the election canvass summary report certified by the county board of canvassers.

2009 Acts, ch 57, §42

**50.31 Abstracts for governor and lieutenant governor.**

The envelope containing the abstracts of votes for governor and lieutenant governor shall be endorsed substantially as follows: “Abstract of votes for governor and lieutenant governor from ..... county”. After being so endorsed said envelope shall be addressed, “To the Speaker of the House of Representatives”.

[C51, §283; R60, §517; C73, §645; C97, §1157; S13, §1157; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §870; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.31]

**50.32 Endorsement on other envelope.**

The envelope for offices other than governor and lieutenant governor shall be endorsed substantially in the manner provided in section 50.31, with changes necessary to indicate the particular offices, and shall be addressed, “To the State Commissioner of Elections”.

[C51, §283, 305; R60, §517, 539; C73, §645, 662; C97, §1157; S13, §1157; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §871; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.32]

91 Acts, ch 129, §16

**50.33 Forwarding of envelopes.**

The envelopes, including the one addressed to the speaker, after being prepared, sealed, and endorsed as required by this chapter, shall be placed in one package and forwarded to the state commissioner.

[C51, §284, 305; R60, §518, 539; C73, §645, 662; C97, §1157; S13, §1157; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §872; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.33]

93 Acts, ch 143, §23

**50.34 Missing abstracts.**

If the abstracts from any county are not received at the office of the state commissioner within fifteen days after the day of election, the state commissioner shall send a messenger to the commissioner of such county, who shall furnish the messenger with them, or, if they have been sent, with a copy thereof, and the messenger shall return them to the state commissioner without delay.

[C51, §285; R60, §519; C73, §649; C97, §1158; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §873; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.34]

**50.35 Delivery of abstracts.**

The envelopes containing the abstracts of votes for governor and lieutenant governor shall not be opened by the state commissioner, but the state commissioner shall securely preserve the same and deliver them to the speaker of the house of representatives at the time said abstracts are canvassed as provided by law.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §874; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.35]

Canvass for governor, §2.27 et seq.; also Iowa Constitution, Art. IV, §3

**50.36 Envelopes containing other abstracts — canvass.**

The secretary of state, upon receipt of the envelopes containing the abstracts of votes, shall open and canvass the abstracts for all offices except governor and lieutenant governor.

The secretary of state shall invite to attend the canvass one representative from each political party which, at the last preceding general election, cast for its candidate for president of the United States or for governor, as the case may be, at least two percent of the total vote cast for all candidates for that office at that election, as determined by the secretary of state. The secretary of state shall notify the chairperson of each political party of the time of the canvass. However, the presence of a representative from a political party is not necessary for the canvass to proceed.

[C51, §286; R60, §520; C73, §650; C97, §1159; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §875; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.36]

95 Acts, ch 189, §11

#### **50.37 State canvassing board.**

The executive council shall constitute a board of canvassers of all abstracts of votes required to be filed with the state commissioner, except for the offices of governor and lieutenant governor. Any clerical error found by the secretary of state or state board of canvassers shall be corrected by the county commissioner in a letter addressed to the state board of canvassers.

[C51, §287; R60, §521; C73, §647, 651; C97, §1160, 1162; S13, §1162; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §876; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.37]

95 Acts, ch 189, §12

Additional provisions, §49A.8

#### **50.38 Time of state canvass.**

Not later than twenty-seven days after the day of the election, the secretary of state shall present to the board of state canvassers abstracts of votes cast at the election showing the number of ballots cast for each office and a summary of the results for each office, showing the votes cast in each county. The state board of canvassers shall review the results compiled by the secretary of state and, if the results are accurately tabulated, the state board shall approve the canvass.

[C51, §288, 306; R60, §522, 540; C73, §647, 652, 663; C97, §1161, 1162; S13, §1162; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §877; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.38]

95 Acts, ch 189, §13

Canvass under special election, §50.46

#### **50.39 Abstract.**

It shall make an abstract stating the number of ballots cast for each office, the names of all the persons voted for, for what office, the number of votes each received, and whom it declares to be elected, and if a public question has been submitted to the voters of the state, the number of ballots cast for and against the question and a declaration of the result as determined by the canvassers; which abstract shall be signed by the canvassers in their official capacity and as state canvassers, and have the seal of the state affixed.

[C51, §289, 306; R60, §523, 540; C73, §653, 663; C97, §1163; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §878; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.39]

2009 Acts, ch 57, §43

**50.48 General recount provisions.**

1. *a.* The county board of canvassers shall order a recount of the votes cast for a particular office or nomination in one or more specified election precincts in that county if a written request therefor is made not later than 5:00 p.m. on the third day following the county board's canvass of the election in question. The request shall be filed with the commissioner of that county, or with the commissioner responsible for conducting the election if section 47.2, subsection 2, is applicable, and shall be signed by either of the following:

(1) A candidate for that office or nomination whose name was printed on the ballot of the precinct or precincts where the recount is requested.

(2) Any other person who receives votes for that particular office or nomination in the precinct or precincts where the recount is requested and who is legally qualified to seek and to hold the office in question.

*b.* Immediately upon receipt of a request for a recount, the commissioner shall send a copy of the request to the apparent winner by certified mail. The commissioner shall also attempt to contact the apparent winner by telephone. If the apparent winner cannot be reached within four days, the chairperson of the political party or organization which nominated the apparent winner shall be contacted and shall act on behalf of the apparent winner, if necessary. For candidates for state or federal offices, the chairperson of the state party shall be contacted. For candidates for county offices, the county chairperson of the party shall be contacted.

2. *a.* The candidate requesting a recount under this section shall post a bond, unless the abstracts prepared pursuant to section 50.24, or section 43.49 in the case of a primary election, indicate that the difference between the total number of votes cast for the apparent winner and the total number of votes cast for the candidate requesting the recount is less than the greater of fifty votes or one percent of the total number of votes cast for the office or nomination in question. If a recount is requested for an office to which more than one person was elected, the vote difference calculations shall be made using the difference between the number of votes received by the person requesting the recount and the number of votes received by the apparent winner who received the fewest votes. Where votes cast for that office or nomination were canvassed in more than one county, the abstracts prepared by the county boards in all of those counties shall be totaled for purposes of this subsection. If a bond is required, it shall be filed with the state commissioner for recounts involving a state office, including a seat in the general assembly, or a seat in the United States Congress, and with the commissioner responsible for conducting the election in all other cases, and shall be in the following amount:

(1) For an office filled by the electors of the entire state, one thousand dollars.

(2) For United States representative, five hundred dollars.

(3) For senator in the general assembly, three hundred dollars.

(4) For representative in the general assembly, one hundred fifty dollars.

(5) For an office filled by the electors of an entire county having a population of fifty thousand or more, two hundred dollars.

(6) For any elective office to which subparagraphs (1) through (5) are not applicable, one hundred dollars.

*b.* After all recount proceedings for a particular office are completed and the official canvass of votes cast for that office is corrected or completed pursuant to subsections 5 and 6, if necessary, any bond posted under this subsection shall be returned to the candidate who requested the recount if the apparent winner before the recount is not the winner as shown by the corrected or completed canvass. In all other cases, the bond shall be deposited in the general fund of

the state if filed with the state commissioner or in the election fund of the county with whose commissioner it was filed.

3. *a.* The recount shall be conducted by a board which shall consist of:

(1) A designee of the candidate requesting the recount, who shall be named in the written request when it is filed.

(2) A designee of the apparent winning candidate, who shall be named by that candidate at or before the time the board is required to convene.

(3) A person chosen jointly by the members designated under subparagraphs (1) and (2).

*b.* The commissioner shall convene the persons designated under paragraph “*a.*”, subparagraphs (1) and (2), not later than 9:00 a.m. on the seventh day following the county board’s canvass of the election in question. If those two members cannot agree on the third member by 8:00 a.m. on the ninth day following the canvass, they shall immediately so notify the chief judge of the judicial district in which the canvass is occurring, who shall appoint the third member not later than 5:00 p.m. on the eleventh day following the canvass.

4. *a.* When all members of the recount board have been selected, the board shall undertake and complete the required recount as expeditiously as reasonably possible. The commissioner or the commissioner’s designee shall supervise the handling of ballots to ensure that the ballots are protected from alteration or damage. The board shall open only the sealed ballot containers from the precincts specified to be recounted in the request or by the recount board. The board shall recount only the ballots which were voted and counted for the office in question, including any disputed ballots returned as required in section 50.5. If automatic tabulating equipment was used to count the ballots, the recount board may request the commissioner to retabulate the ballots using the automatic tabulating equipment. The same program used for tabulating the votes on election day shall be used at the recount unless the program is believed or known to be flawed.

*b.* Any member of the recount board may at any time during the recount proceedings extend the recount of votes cast for the office or nomination in question to any other precinct or precincts in the same county, or from which the returns were reported to the commissioner responsible for conducting the election, without the necessity of posting additional bond.

*c.* The ballots shall be resealed by the recount board before adjournment and shall be preserved as required by section 50.12. At the conclusion of the recount, the recount board shall make and file with the commissioner a written report of its findings, which shall be signed by at least two members of the recount board. The recount board shall complete the recount and file its report not later than the eighteenth day following the county board’s canvass of the election in question.

5. If the recount board’s report is that the abstracts prepared pursuant to the county board’s canvass were incorrect as to the number of votes cast for the candidates for the office or nomination in question, in that county or district, the commissioner shall at once so notify the county board. The county board shall reconvene within three days after being so notified, and shall correct its previous proceedings.

6. The commissioner shall promptly notify the state commissioner of any recount of votes for an office to which section 50.30 or section 43.60 in the case of a primary election, is applicable. If necessary, the state canvass required by section 50.38, or by section 43.63, as the case may be, shall be delayed with respect to the office or the nomination to which the recount pertains. The commissioner shall subsequently inform the state commissioner at the earliest possible time whether any change in the outcome of the election in that county or district resulted from the recount.

7. If the election is an election held by a city which is not the final election for the office in question, the recount shall progress according to the times provided by this subsection. If this subsection applies the canvass shall be held by the second day after the election, the request for a recount must be made by the third day after the election, the board shall convene to conduct the recount by the sixth day after the election, and the report shall be filed by the eleventh day after the election.

[S13, §1087-a18; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §584–586; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.56–43.58; S81, §50.48; 81 Acts, ch 34, §34]

86 Acts, ch 1224, §15, 16; 93 Acts, ch 143, §24, 25; 94 Acts, ch 1180, §19; 97 Acts, ch 170, §58; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §47, 115; 2007 Acts, ch 190, §3; 2008 Acts, ch 1032, §153; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §44

#### **50.49 Recounts for public measures.**

1. A recount for any public measure shall be ordered by the board of canvassers if a petition requesting a recount is filed with the county commissioner not later than three days after the completion of the canvass of votes for the election at which the question appeared on the ballot. The petition shall be signed by the greater of not less than ten eligible electors or a number of eligible electors equaling one percent of the total number of votes cast upon the public measure. Each petitioner must be a person who was entitled to vote on the public measure in question or would have been so entitled if registered to vote.

2. The recount shall be conducted by a board which shall consist of:

*a.* A designee named in the petition requesting the recount.

*b.* A designee named by the commissioner at or before the time the board is required to convene.

*c.* A person chosen jointly by the members designated under paragraphs “*a*” and “*b*”.

3. The commissioner shall convene the persons designated under subsection 2, paragraphs “*a*” and “*b*”, not later than 9:00 a.m. on the seventh day following the canvass of the election in question. If those two members cannot agree on the third member by 8:00 a.m. on the ninth day following the canvass, they shall immediately notify the chief judge of the judicial district in which the canvass is occurring, who shall appoint the third member not later than 5:00 p.m. on the eleventh day following the canvass.

4. The petitioners requesting the recount shall post a bond as required by section 50.48, subsection 2. The amount of the bond shall be one thousand dollars for a public measure appearing on the ballot statewide or one hundred dollars for any other public measure. If the difference between the affirmative and negative votes cast on the public measure is less than the greater of fifty votes or one percent of the total number of votes cast for and against the question, a bond is not required. If approval by sixty percent of the votes cast is required for adoption of the public measure, no bond is required if the difference between sixty percent of the total votes cast for and against the question and

the number of affirmative votes cast is less than the greater of fifty votes or one percent of the total number of votes cast.

5. The procedure for the recount shall follow the provisions of section 50.48, subsections 4 through 7, as far as possible.

95 Acts, ch 189, §14; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §48, 115; 2008 Acts, ch 1032, §154; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §103

#### **50.50 Administrative recounts.**

The commissioner who was responsible for conducting an election may request an administrative recount when the commissioner suspects that voting equipment used in the election malfunctioned or that programming errors may have affected the outcome of the election, or if the precinct election officials report counting errors to the commissioner after the conclusion of the canvass of votes in the precinct. An administrative recount shall be conducted by the board of the special precinct established by section 53.23. Bond shall not be required for an administrative recount. The state commissioner may adopt rules for administrative recounts.

If the recount board finds that there is an error in the programming of any voting equipment which may have affected the outcome of the election for any office or public measure on the ballot, the recount board shall describe the errors in its report to the commissioner. The commissioner shall notify the board of supervisors. The supervisors shall determine whether to order an administrative recount for any or all of the offices and public measures on the ballot.

97 Acts, ch 170, §59; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §49, 115

**51.8 Ballot boxes.**

It shall be the duty of the commissioner to provide the precinct election officials with such ballot boxes and other election supplies as may be required to be furnished in duplicate to accomplish the purpose of this chapter.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §894; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §51.8]

**51.9 Manner of counting.**

Whenever the counting board receives from the receiving board the ballot box, they shall also be furnished a statement from the receiving board giving the number of voters' declarations of eligibility signed up to that time, which shall equal the number of votes in the ballot box. The counting board shall on opening the ballot box first count the ballots therein. If the number of ballots found in the ballot box exceeds the number as shown by the statement received from the receiving board the counting board members shall proceed to examine the official endorsement of said ballots, and, if any ballots are found that do not bear proper official endorsement, said ballots shall be kept separate and a record of such ballots shall be made and returned under the head of excess ballots. The counting board shall then proceed to count the ballots as now provided by law.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §895; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §51.9]

Counting general election ballots, chapter 50

**51.10 Secrecy of ballot.**

The space or room occupied by the counting board shall be policed in such manner as to prevent any person, or persons, from gaining information regarding the progress of the count before the polls are closed.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §896; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §51.10]

**51.11 Presence of persons.**

No person shall be admitted into the space or room where such ballots are being counted until the polls are closed, except the counting board and the witnesses appointed and accredited under section 49.104, subsection 3. It shall be unlawful for any witness to communicate or attempt to communicate, directly or indirectly, information regarding the progress of the count at any time before the polls are closed.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §897; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §51.11]

**51.12 Counting quarters — guarding ballots.**

The commissioner shall provide suitable places for the counting of ballots, but when it becomes necessary to remove the ballot box from one room to another, or from one building to another, and at all times when they are in possession of the counting board, they shall be under constant observation of at least one counting board member from each political party.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §898; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §51.12]

**51.13 Certification of count — returns.**

Both boards shall certify to all matters pertaining to counting and canvassing of votes and shall return all materials and ballots to the commissioner as provided by law.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §899; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §51.13]

Return of election register and ballots, §50.5, 50.9, 50.12, 50.17

**51.14 Compensation of board.**

Compensation for counting board members shall be the same as provided by law for precinct election officials.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §900; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §51.14]  
Compensation, §49.20

**51.15 Applicability of law.**

This chapter shall apply to all elections in which the commissioner has determined that paper ballots shall be used and counted by precinct election officials pursuant to section 49.26.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §901; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §51.15]  
2009 Acts, ch 57, §45

**51.16 and 51.17** Repealed by 2002 Acts, ch 1071, § 15. See § 39A.4 and 39A.5.

## CHAPTER 52

### VOTING SYSTEMS

Chapter applicable to primary elections, §43.5  
Definitions in §39.3 applicable to this chapter

52.1	Voting systems — definitions.	52.25	Summary of amendment or public measure.
52.2	Purchase.		
52.3	Terms of purchase — tax levy.		OPTICAL SCAN VOTING SYSTEMS
52.4	Examiners — term — removal.		
52.5	Testing and examination of voting equipment.	52.26	Authorized optical scan voting system.
52.6	Compensation.	52.27	Commissioner to provide optical scan voting equipment.
52.7	Construction of machine approved — requirements. Repealed by 2009 Acts, ch 57, §96.	52.28	Optical scan voting system ballot forms.
52.8	Experimental use.	52.29	Optical scan voting system sample ballots.
52.9	and 52.10 Repealed by 2009 Acts, ch 57, §96.	52.30	Repealed by 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §114, 115.
52.11	Locking of unused party row. Repealed by 2007 Acts, ch 190, §13.	52.31	Procedure where votes cast on optical scan ballots.
52.12	Exception — straight party voting. Repealed by 2007 Acts, ch 190, §13.	52.32	Procedure upon closing polls. Repealed by 2007 Acts, ch 190, §13.
52.13	Sample ballots. Repealed by 2007 Acts, ch 190, §13.	52.33	Absentee voting by optical scan voting system.
52.14	Two sets of ballots. Repealed by 2007 Acts, ch 190, §13.	52.34	Counting center established. Repealed by 2007 Acts, ch 190, §13.
52.15	Delivery of ballots and supplies. Repealed by 2007 Acts, ch 190, §13.	52.35	Equipment tested.
52.16	Duties of election officers — independent ballots. Repealed by 2007 Acts, ch 190, §13.	52.36	Commissioner in charge of counting center — appointment of resolution board. Repealed by 2007 Acts, ch 190, §13.
52.17	and 52.18 Repealed by 2009 Acts, ch 57, §96.	52.37	Special precinct tabulation procedure.
52.19	Instructions.	52.38	Testing portable tabulating devices. Repealed by 2007 Acts, ch 190, §13.
52.20	Injury to machine. Repealed by 2009 Acts, ch 57, §96.	52.39	Reserved.
52.21	Canvass of vote — tally sheet. Repealed by 2007 Acts, ch 190, §13.	52.40	Early pick-up sites established — procedure. Repealed by 2007 Acts, ch 190, §13.
52.22	Locking machine. Repealed by 2007 Acts, ch 190, §13.	52.41	Electronic transmission of election results.
52.23	Written statements of election.		
52.24	Separate ballots.		

#### 52.1 Voting systems — definitions.

1. At all elections conducted under chapter 49, and at any other election unless the commissioner directs otherwise pursuant to section 49.26, votes shall be cast, registered, recorded, and counted by means of optical scan voting systems, in accordance with this chapter.

2. As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

a. “*Automatic tabulating equipment*” means apparatus, including but not limited to electronic data processing machines, that are utilized to ascertain the

manner in which optical scan ballots have been marked by voters or by electronic ballot marking devices, and count the votes marked on the ballots.

*b. "Ballot"* includes paper ballots designed to be read by automatic tabulating equipment. In appropriate contexts, *"ballot"* also includes conventional paper ballots.

*c. "Ballot marking device"* means a pen, pencil, or similar writing tool, or an electronic device, all designed for use in marking an optical scan ballot, and so designed or fabricated that the mark it leaves may be detected and the vote so cast counted by automatic tabulating equipment.

*d. "Optical scan ballot"* means a printed ballot designed to be marked by a voter with a ballot marking device.

*e. "Optical scan voting system"* means a system employing paper ballots under which votes are cast by voters by marking paper ballots with a ballot marking device and thereafter counted by use of automatic tabulating equipment.

*f. "Program"* means the written record of the set of instructions defining the operations to be performed by a computer in examining, counting, tabulating, and printing votes.

[S13, §1137-a7; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §904; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §52.1]

86 Acts, ch 1224, §17, 18; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §50, 51, 115; 2004 Acts, ch 1083, §24, 37; 2007 Acts, ch 190, §4, 5; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §46, 47

## **52.2 Purchase.**

1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, the board of supervisors of a county may, by a majority vote, authorize, purchase, and order the use of voting machines or an optical scan voting system in any one or more voting precincts within the county until otherwise ordered by the board of supervisors. Voting machines and an optical scan voting system may be used concurrently at the same precinct.

2. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, for elections held on or after November 4, 2008, a county shall use an optical scan voting system only. The requirements of the federal Help America Vote Act relating to disabled voters shall be met by a county through the use of electronic ballot marking devices that are compatible with an optical scan voting system.

[S13, §1137-a8; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §905; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §52.2]

2004 Acts, ch 1083, §25, 37; 2007 Acts, ch 190, §6; 2008 Acts, ch 1176, §3, 10

## **52.3 Terms of purchase — tax levy.**

The county board of supervisors, on the adoption and purchase of an optical scan voting system, may issue bonds under section 331.441, subsection 2, paragraph "b", subparagraph (1).

[S13, §1137-a14; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §906; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, S81, §52.3; 81 Acts, ch 117, §1009]  
83 Acts, ch 123, §46, 209; 2007 Acts, ch 190, §27; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §48

#### **52.4 Examiners — term — removal.**

1. The state commissioner of elections shall appoint three members to a board of examiners for voting systems, not more than two of whom shall be from the same political party. The examiners shall hold office for staggered terms of six years, subject to removal at the pleasure of the state commissioner of elections.

2. At least one of the examiners shall have been trained in computer programming and operations. The other two members shall be directly involved in the administration of elections and shall have experience in the use of optical scan voting systems.

[S13, §1137-a9; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §907; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §52.4]

94 Acts, ch 1180, §20; 2007 Acts, ch 190, §28; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §49

#### **52.5 Testing and examination of voting equipment.**

1. A person or corporation owning or being interested in optical scan voting system may request that the state commissioner call upon the board of examiners to examine and test the system. Within seven days of receiving a request for examination and test, the state commissioner shall notify the board of examiners of the request in writing and set a time and place for the examination and test.

2. The state commissioner shall formulate, with the advice and assistance of the examiners, and adopt rules governing the testing and examination of any optical scan voting system by the board of examiners. The rules shall prescribe the method to be used in determining whether the system is suitable for use within the state and performance standards for voting equipment in use within the state. The rules shall provide that all optical scan voting systems approved for use by the examiners after April 9, 2003, shall meet voting systems performance and test standards, as adopted by the federal election commission on April 30, 2002, and as deemed adopted by Pub. L. No. 107-252, § 222. The rules shall include standards for determining when recertification is necessary following modifications to the equipment or to the programs used in tabulating votes, and a procedure for rescinding certification if a system is found not to comply with performance standards adopted by the state commissioner.

3. The state commissioner may employ a competent person or persons to assist the examiners in their evaluation of the equipment and to advise the examiners as to the sufficiency of the equipment. Consultant fees shall be paid by the person who requested the certification. Following the examination and testing of the optical scan voting system, the examiners shall report to the state commissioner describing the testing and examination of the system and upon the capacity of the system to register the will of voters, its accuracy and efficiency, and with respect to its mechanical perfections and imperfections. Their report shall be filed in the office of the state commissioner and shall state whether in their opinion the kind of system so examined can be safely used by voters at elections under the conditions prescribed in this chapter. If the report states that the system can be so used, it shall be deemed approved by the examiners, and systems of its kind may be adopted for use at elections as provided in this section. Any form of system not so approved cannot be used at any election.

4. Before actual use by a county of a particular optical scan voting system which has been approved for use in this state, the state commissioner shall formulate, with the advice and assistance of the examiners, and adopt rules governing the development of vote counting programs and all procedures used in actual counting of votes by means of that system.

[S13, §1137-a10; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §908; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §52.5]

86 Acts, ch 1224, §19; 89 Acts, ch 136, §50; 2004 Acts, ch 1083, §26, 37; 2007 Acts, ch 190, §29; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §50

#### **52.6 Compensation.**

1. Each examiner is entitled to one hundred fifty dollars for compensation and expenses in making an examination and report under section 52.5, to be paid by the person or corporation applying for the examination. However, each examiner shall receive not to exceed fifteen hundred dollars and reasonable expenses in any one year; and all sums collected for such examinations over and above said maximum salaries and expenses shall be turned in to the state treasury.

2. An examiner shall not have any interest whatever in any optical scan voting system reported upon.

[S13, §1137-a10; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §909; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §52.6]

2009 Acts, ch 57, §51

**52.7 Construction of machine approved — requirements.** Repealed by 2009 Acts, ch 57, § 96.

#### **52.8 Experimental use.**

The board of supervisors of any county may provide for the experimental use at an election in one or more districts, of an optical scan voting system which it might lawfully adopt, without a formal adoption of the system; and its use at such election shall be as valid for all purposes as if it had been lawfully adopted.

[S13, §1137-a12; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §911; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §52.8]

2007 Acts, ch 190, §30; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §52

**52.9 and 52.10** Repealed by 2009 Acts, ch 57, § 96.

**52.11 Locking of unused party row.** Repealed by 2007 Acts, ch 190, § 13.

**52.12 Exception — straight party voting.** Repealed by 2007 Acts, ch 190, § 13.

**52.13 Sample ballots.** Repealed by 2007 Acts, ch 190, § 13.

**52.14 Two sets of ballots.** Repealed by 2007 Acts, ch 190, § 13.

**52.15 Delivery of ballots and supplies.** Repealed by 2007 Acts, ch 190, § 13.

**52.16 Duties of election officers — independent ballots.** Repealed by 2007 Acts, ch 190, § 13.

**52.17 and 52.18** Repealed by 2009 Acts, ch 57, § 96.

**52.19 Instructions.**

In case any elector after entering the voting booth shall ask for further instructions concerning the manner of voting, two precinct election officials of opposite political parties shall give such instructions to the elector; but no precinct election official or other election officer or person assisting an elector shall in any manner request, suggest, or seek to persuade or induce any such elector to vote any particular ticket, or for any particular candidate, or for or against any particular amendment, question, or proposition. After receiving such instructions, the elector shall vote as in the case of an unassisted voter.

[S13, §1137-a22; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §921; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §52.19]

2009 Acts, ch 57, §53

**52.20 Injury to machine.** Repealed by 2009 Acts, ch 57, § 96.

**52.21 Canvass of vote — tally sheet.** Repealed by 2007 Acts, ch 190, § 13.

**52.22 Locking machine.** Repealed by 2007 Acts, ch 190, § 13.

**52.23 Written statements of election.**

After the total vote for each candidate has been ascertained, and before leaving the room or voting place, the precinct election officials shall make and sign the tally list required in section 50.16. One copy of the printed results from each tabulating device shall be signed by all precinct election officials present and shall be attached to the tally list from the precinct. The printed results attached to the tally list shall reflect all votes cast in the precinct, including overvotes and undervotes, for each candidate and public measure on the ballot.

[S13, §1137-a26; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §925; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §52.23]

86 Acts, ch 1224, §23; 93 Acts, ch 143, §26; 2007 Acts, ch 190, §31; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §54

**52.24 Separate ballots.**

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as prohibiting the use of a separate ballot for public measures.

[S13, §1137-a27; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §926; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §52.24]

2009 Acts, ch 57, §55

See also §49.43, 49.44

**52.25 Summary of amendment or public measure.**

1. The question of a constitutional convention, amendments, and public measures including bond issues may be voted on ballots in the following manner:

*a.* The entire convention question, amendment, or public measure shall be printed and displayed prominently in at least one place within the voting

precinct, and inside each voting booth, the printing to be in conformity with the provisions of chapter 49.

*b.* The question, amendment, or measure, and summaries thereof, shall be printed on the ballots. In no case shall the font size be less than ten point type.

2. The public measure shall be summarized by the commissioner, except that:

*a.* In the case of the question of a constitutional convention, or of an amendment or measure to be voted on in the entire state, the summary shall be worded by the state commissioner of elections as required by section 49.44.

*b.* In the case of a public question to be voted on in a political subdivision lying in more than one county, the summary shall be worded by the commissioner responsible under section 47.2 for conducting that election.

[C62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §52.25]

88 Acts, ch 1119, §25; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §52, 115; 2007 Acts, ch 59, §16, 19; 2007 Acts, ch 190, §32; 2008 Acts, ch 1032, §201; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §56; 2009 Acts, ch 133, §15

## OPTICAL SCAN VOTING SYSTEMS

**52.26 Authorized optical scan voting system.**

1. Every optical scan voting system approved by the state board of examiners for voting systems shall:

*a.* Provide for voting in secrecy, except as to persons entitled by sections 49.90 and 49.91 to assistance. The state board of examiners for voting systems shall determine whether the systems' voting booths provide for voting in secrecy.

*b.* Permit each voter to vote at any election for any candidate for each office and upon each public question with respect to which the voter is entitled by law to vote, while preventing the voter from voting more than once upon any public question or casting more votes for any office than there are persons to be elected to that office.

*c.* Permit a voter to vote for any person for any office on the ballot at that election, whether or not the person's name is printed on the ballot.

*d.* Be so constructed or designed that, when voting in a primary election in which candidates are nominated by political parties, a voter is limited to the candidates for the nominations of the political party with which that voter is affiliated.

*e.* Be so constructed or designed that in presidential elections the voter casts a vote for the presidential electors of any party or political organization by a single mark made opposite the name of the candidates of that party or organization for the offices of both president and vice president of the United States, and so that the voter is also provided the opportunity to write in the name of any person for whom the voter desires to vote for president or vice president of the United States.

*f.* Be so constructed or designed as to permit voting for candidates for nomination or election of at least seven different political parties or organizations, and to permit voting for all of the candidates of any one political party or organization by a single mark, at any one election.

2. A punch card voting system shall not be approved for use.

[C77, 79, 81, §52.26]

90 Acts, ch 1007, §2; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §53, 115; 2007 Acts, ch 190, §33, 34

**52.27 Commissioner to provide optical scan voting equipment.**

The commissioner having jurisdiction of any precinct for which the board of supervisors has adopted voting by means of an optical scan voting system shall, as soon as practicable thereafter, provide for use at each election held in the precinct optical scan ballots and ballot marking devices in appropriate numbers. The commissioner shall have custody of all equipment required for use of the optical scan voting system, and shall be responsible for maintaining it in good condition and for storing it between elections.

[C77, 79, 81, §52.27]

2002 Acts, ch 1134, §54, 115; 2007 Acts, ch 190, §35; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §57

**52.28 Optical scan voting system ballot forms.**

The commissioner of each county in which the use of an optical scan voting system in one or more precincts has been authorized shall print optical scan ballots using black ink on white paper and shall determine the arrangement of candidates' names and public questions upon the ballot or ballots used with the system. The ballot information shall be arranged as required by chapters 43 and 49, and by any relevant provisions of any statutes which specify the form of ballots for special elections, so far as possible within the constraints of the physical characteristics of the optical scan voting system in use in that county. The state commissioner may adopt rules requiring a reasonable degree of uniformity among counties in arrangement of optical scan voting system ballots.

[C77, 79, 81, §52.28]

2002 Acts, ch 1134, §55, 56, 115; 2007 Acts, ch 190, §36; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §58

**52.29 Optical scan voting system sample ballots.**

The commissioner shall provide for each precinct where an optical scan voting system is in use at least one sample optical scan ballot which shall be an exact copy of the official ballots as printed for that precinct. The sample ballot shall be posted prominently within the polling place, and shall be open to public inspection during the hours the polls are open on election day. If the ballot used on election day has offices or questions appearing on the back of the ballot, both sides of the sample ballot shall be displayed.

[C77, 79, 81, §52.29]

2002 Acts, ch 1134, §57, 115; 2007 Acts, ch 190, §37; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §59

**52.30** Repealed by 2002 Acts, ch 1134, § 114, 115.

**52.31 Procedure where votes cast on optical scan ballots.**

Preparations for voting and voting at any election in a precinct where votes are to be received on optical scan ballots shall be in accordance with the provisions of chapter 49 governing voting upon conventional paper ballots with the following exceptions:

1. Before entering the voting booth each voter shall be cautioned to mark the ballot only with a ballot marking device provided in the booth or by the precinct election officials.

2. In each precinct where portable automatic tabulating equipment is used, the voter may personally insert the ballot into the tabulating device.

[C77, 79, 81, §52.31]

86 Acts, ch 1224, §24; 2007 Acts, ch 190, §38

**52.32 Procedure upon closing polls.** Repealed by 2007 Acts, ch 190, § 13.

c. Ballots which are rejected by the tabulating equipment as blank because they have been marked with an unreadable marker shall be duplicated or tabulated as required by this subsection for damaged or defective ballots. The commissioner may instruct the special precinct election board to mark over voters' unreadable marks using a marker compatible with the tabulating equipment. The special precinct election board shall take care to leave part of the original mark made by the voter. If it is impossible to mark over the original marks made by the voter without completely obliterating them, the ballot shall be duplicated.

2. The record printed by the automatic tabulating equipment, with the addition of a record of any write-in or other votes manually counted pursuant to this chapter, shall constitute the official return of the absentee ballot and special voter's precinct. Upon completion of the tabulation of the votes, the result shall be announced and reported in substantially the manner required by section 50.11.

3. If for any reason it becomes impracticable to count all or any part of the ballots with the automatic tabulating equipment, the commissioner may direct that they be counted manually, in accordance with chapter 50 so far as applicable.

[C77, 79, 81, §52.37]

92 Acts, ch 1034, §2; 93 Acts, ch 143, §29; 97 Acts, ch 170, §65; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §60, 115; 2007 Acts, ch 190, §39; 2008 Acts, ch 1032, §156

**52.38 Testing portable tabulating devices.** Repealed by 2007 Acts, ch 190, § 13. See § 52.35.

**52.39** Reserved.

**52.40 Early pick-up sites established — procedure.** Repealed by 2007 Acts, ch 190, § 13.

**52.41 Electronic transmission of election results.**

With the advice of the board of examiners for voting systems, the state commissioner shall adopt by rule standards for the examination and testing of devices for the electronic transmission of election results. All voting systems which contain devices for the electronic transmission of election results submitted to the examiners for examination and testing after July 1, 2003, shall comply with these standards.

2002 Acts, ch 1134, §61, 115; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §60

BLANK

CHAPTER 53

ABSENT VOTERS

Chapter applicable to primary elections, §43.5  
 Definitions in §39.3 applicable to this chapter

53.1	Right to vote — conditions.	53.30	Ballots, ballot envelopes, and other information preserved.
53.2	Application for ballot.	53.31	Challenges.
53.3	Requirements for certain absentee ballot applications — prescribed form — receipt.	53.32	Ballot of deceased voter.
53.4	through 53.6 Reserved.	53.33	Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.
53.7	Solicitation by public employees.	53.34	False affidavit.
53.8	Ballot mailed.	53.35	Refusal to return ballot. Repealed by 2007 Acts, ch 59, §37, 38.
53.9	Prohibited persons.	53.35A	Failure to return ballot.
53.10	Absentee voting at the commissioner's office.	53.36	Repealed by 2002 Acts, ch 1071, §15.
53.11	Satellite absentee voting stations.		
53.12	Duty of commissioner.		ABSENT VOTING BY ARMED FORCES
53.13	Voter's affidavit on envelope.	53.37	Definitions.
53.14	Party affiliation.	53.37A	State commissioner duties.
53.15	Marking ballot.	53.38	What constitutes registration.
53.16	Subscribing to affidavit.	53.39	Request for ballot — when available.
53.17	Mailing or delivering ballot.	53.40	Request requirements — transmission of ballot.
53.18	Manner of preserving ballot and application — review of affidavit — replacement ballots.	53.41	Records by commissioner — excess requests or ballots.
53.19	Listing absentee ballots.	53.42	Voting in person in commissioner's office.
53.20	Special precinct established.	53.43	Identification on envelope.
53.21	Replacement of lost or spoiled absentee ballots.	53.44	Affidavit to be signed and returned.
53.22	Balloting by confined persons.	53.45	Special absentee ballot.
53.23	Special precinct election board.	53.46	Powers and duties of state commissioner.
53.24	Counties using voting machines. Repealed by 2009 Acts, ch 57, §96.	53.47	Materials furnished by department of administrative services.
53.25	Rejecting ballot.	53.48	Postage on ballots.
53.26	Rejected ballots — how handled.	53.49	Applicable to armed forces and other citizens.
53.27	Rejection of ballot — return of envelope.	53.50	Appropriation.
53.28	and 53.29 Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.	53.51	Rule of construction.
		53.52	Inconsistent provisions — rule.
		53.53	Federal write-in ballots.

**53.1 Right to vote — conditions.**

1. Any registered voter may, subject to the provisions of this chapter, vote at any election:

- a. When the voter expects to be absent on election day during the time the polls are open from the precinct in which the voter is a registered voter.
- b. When, through illness or physical disability, the voter expects to be prevented from going to the polls and voting on election day.
- c. When the voter expects to be unable to go to the polls and vote on election day.

2. A person who has been designated to have power of attorney by a registered voter does not have authority to request or to cast an absentee ballot on behalf of the registered voter.

[SS15, §1137-b; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §927; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.1]

90 Acts, ch 1238, §28; 93 Acts, ch 143, §31; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §65; 2008 Acts, ch 1032, §201

### **53.2 Application for ballot.**

1. *a.* Any registered voter, under the circumstances specified in section 53.1, may on any day, except election day, and not more than seventy days prior to the date of the election, apply in person for an absentee ballot at the commissioner's office or at any location designated by the commissioner. However, for those elections in which the commissioner directs the polls be opened at noon pursuant to section 49.73, a voter may apply in person for an absentee ballot at the commissioner's office from 8:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. on election day.

*b.* A registered voter may make written application to the commissioner for an absentee ballot. A written application for an absentee ballot must be received by the commissioner no later than 5:00 p.m. on the Friday before the election. A written application for an absentee ballot delivered to the commissioner and received by the commissioner more than seventy days prior to the date of the election shall be retained by the commissioner and processed in the same manner as a written application received not more than seventy days before the date of the election.

2. *a.* The state commissioner shall prescribe a form for absentee ballot applications. However, if a registered voter submits an application on a sheet of paper no smaller than three by five inches in size that includes all of the information required in this section, the prescribed form is not required.

*b.* Absentee ballot applications may include instructions to send the application directly to the county commissioner of elections. However, no absentee ballot application shall be preaddressed or printed with instructions to send the applications to anyone other than the appropriate commissioner.

*c.* No absentee ballot application shall be preaddressed or printed with instructions to send the ballot to anyone other than the voter.

3. This section does not require that a written communication mailed to the commissioner's office to request an absentee ballot, or any other document be notarized as a prerequisite to receiving or marking an absentee ballot or returning to the commissioner an absentee ballot which has been voted.

4. Each application shall contain the name and signature of the registered voter, the registered voter's date of birth, the address at which the voter is registered to vote, and the name or date of the election for which the absentee ballot is requested, and such other information as may be necessary to determine the correct absentee ballot for the registered voter. If insufficient information has been provided, either on the prescribed form or on an application created by the applicant, the commissioner shall, by the best means available, obtain the additional necessary information.

5. An application for a primary election ballot which specifies a party different from that recorded on the registered voter's voter registration record, or if the voter's voter registration record does not indicate a party affiliation, shall be accepted as a change or declaration of party affiliation. The commissioner shall approve the change or declaration and enter a notation of the change on the registration records at the time the absentee ballot request is noted on the voter's registration record. A notice shall be sent with the ballot requested informing the voter that the voter's registration record will be changed to show that the voter is now affiliated with the party whose ballot the voter requested. If an application for a primary election ballot does not specify a party and the voter registration record of the voter from whom the application is received shows that the voter is affiliated with a party, the voter shall be mailed the ballot of the party indicated on the voter's registration record.

6. If an application for an absentee ballot is received from an eligible elector who is not a registered voter the commissioner shall send the eligible elector a voter registration form and another absentee ballot application form. If the application is received after the time registration closes pursuant to section 48A.9 but by 5:00 p.m. on the Saturday before the election for general and primary elections or by 5:00 p.m. on the Friday before the election for all other elections, the commissioner shall notify the applicant by mail of the election day and in-person absentee registration provisions of section 48A.7A. In addition to notification by mail, the commissioner shall also attempt to contact the applicant by any other method available to the commissioner.

7. A registered voter who has not moved from the county in which the elector is registered to vote may submit a change of name, telephone number, or address on the absentee ballot application form when requesting an absentee ballot. Upon receipt of a properly completed form, the commissioner shall enter a notation of the change on the registration records.

8. An application for an absentee ballot that is returned to the commissioner by a person acting as an actual or implied agent for a political party, candidate, or committee, all as defined by chapter 68A, shall be returned to the commissioner within seventy-two hours of the time the completed application was received from the applicant or no later than 5:00 p.m. on the Friday before the election, whichever is earlier.

[SS15, §1137-c, -d; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §928, 930; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, §53.2, 53.4; C73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.2]

83 Acts, ch 176, §6; 84 Acts, ch 1291, §11; 86 Acts, ch 1224, §28; 87 Acts, ch 221, §25; 91 Acts, ch 129, §17; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §54; 95 Acts, ch 189, §15; 97 Acts, ch 170, §68; 2004 Acts, ch 1083, §28, 29, 37; 2007 Acts, ch 59, §23, 38; 2008 Acts, ch 1032, §157; 2008 Acts, ch 1053, §1, 2; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §61

### **53.3 Requirements for certain absentee ballot applications — prescribed form — receipt.**

1. When an application for an absentee ballot is solicited by, or collected for return to the commissioner by, a person acting as an actual or implied agent for a political party, candidate, or committee, as defined by chapter 68A, the person shall provide the applicant with the form prescribed by the state commissioner.

2. *a.* When an application for an absentee ballot is solicited by, and returned to the commissioner by, a person acting as an actual or implied agent for a political party, candidate, or committee, as defined by chapter 68A, the person shall issue to the applicant a receipt for the completed application.

*b.* The receipt shall contain the following information:

(1) The name of the applicant.

(2) The date and time the completed application was received from the applicant.

(3) The name and date of the election for which the application is being completed.

(4) The name of the political party, candidate, or committee for whom the person is soliciting and returning the application for the absentee ballot.

(5) The name of the person acting as an actual or implied agent for the political party, candidate, or committee.

(6) A statement that the application will be delivered to the appropriate commissioner within seventy-two hours of the date and time the completed application was received from the applicant or no later than 5:00 p.m. on the Friday before the election, whichever is earlier.

(7) A statement that an absentee ballot will be mailed to the applicant within twenty-four hours after the ballot for the election is available.

c. The commissioner shall make receipt forms required by this section available for photocopying at the expense of the political party, candidate, or committee.

2004 Acts, ch 1083, §30, 37; 2004 Acts, ch 1175, §360; 2008 Acts, ch 1032, §201; 2008 Acts, ch 1053, §3

**53.4 through 53.6** Reserved.

**53.7 Solicitation by public employees.**

1. It shall be unlawful for any employee of the state or any employee of a political subdivision to solicit any application or request for application for an absentee ballot, or to take an affidavit in connection with any absentee ballot while the employee is on the employer's premises or otherwise in the course of employment. However, any such employee may take such affidavit in connection with an absentee ballot which is cast by the registered voter in person in the office where such employee is employed in accordance with section 53.10 or 53.11. This subsection shall not apply to any elected official.

2. It is unlawful for any public officer or employee, or any person acting under color of a public officer or employee, to knowingly require a public employee to solicit an application or request an application for an absentee ballot, or to knowingly require an employee to take an affidavit or request for an affidavit in connection with an absentee ballot application.

[SS15, §1137-d; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §933; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.7]

91 Acts, ch 129, §18; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §64; 2002 Acts, ch 1071, §11; 2002 Acts, ch 1175, §80; 2007 Acts, ch 59, §24, 38

**53.8 Ballot mailed.**

1. Upon receipt of an application for an absentee ballot and immediately after the absentee ballots are printed, the commissioner shall mail an absentee ballot to the applicant within twenty-four hours, except as otherwise provided in subsection 3. The absentee ballot shall be enclosed in an unsealed envelope bearing a serial number and affidavit. The absentee ballot and unsealed envelope shall be enclosed in or with a return envelope marked postage paid which bears the same serial number as the unsealed envelope. The absentee ballot, unsealed envelope, and return envelope shall be enclosed in a third envelope to be sent to the registered voter. If the ballot cannot be folded so that all of the votes cast on the ballot will be hidden, the commissioner shall also enclose a secrecy envelope with the absentee ballot.

2. a. The commissioner shall enclose with the absentee ballot a statement informing the applicant that the sealed return envelope may be mailed to the commissioner by the registered voter or the voter’s designee or may be personally delivered to the commissioner’s office by the registered voter or the voter’s designee. The statement shall also inform the voter that the voter may request that the voter’s designee complete a receipt when retrieving the ballot from the voter. A blank receipt shall be enclosed with the absentee ballot.

b. If an application is received so late that it is unlikely that the absentee ballot can be returned in time to be counted on election day, the commissioner shall enclose with the absentee ballot a statement to that effect.

3. a. When an application for an absentee ballot is received by the commissioner of any county from a registered voter who is a patient in a hospital in that county or a resident of any facility in that county shown to be a health care facility by the list of licenses provided the commissioner under section 135C.29, the absentee ballot shall be delivered to the voter and returned to the commissioner in the manner prescribed by section 53.22.

b. (1) If the application is received more than five days before the ballots are printed and the commissioner has elected to have the ballots personally delivered during the ten-day period after the ballots are printed, the commissioner shall mail to the applicant within twenty-four hours a letter in substantially the following form:

Your application for an absentee ballot for the election to be held on ..... has been received. This ballot will be personally delivered to you by a bipartisan team sometime during the ten days after the ballots are printed. If you will not be at the address from which your application was sent during any or all of the ten-day period immediately following the printing of the ballots, the ballot will be personally delivered to you sometime during the fourteen days preceding the election. If you will not be at the address from which your application was sent during either of these time periods, contact this office and arrangements will be made to have your absentee ballot delivered at a time when you will be present at that address.

(2) If the application is received more than fourteen calendar days before the election and the commissioner has not elected to mail absentee ballots to applicants as provided under section 53.22, subsection 3, and has not elected to have the absentee ballots personally delivered during the ten-day period after the ballots are printed, the commissioner shall mail to the applicant within twenty-four hours a letter in substantially the following form:

Your application for an absentee ballot for the election to be held on ..... has been received. This ballot will be personally delivered to you by a bipartisan team sometime during the fourteen days preceding the election. If you will not be at the address from which your application was sent during any or all of the fourteen-day period immediately preceding the election, contact this office and arrangements will be made to have your absentee ballot delivered at a time when you will be present at that address.

c. Nothing in this subsection nor in section 53.22 shall be construed to prohibit a registered voter who is a hospital patient or resident of a health care facility, or who anticipates entering a hospital or health care facility before the date of a forthcoming election, from casting an absentee ballot in the manner prescribed by section 53.10 or 53.11.

[SS15, §1137-c, -d; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §928, 930; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, §53.2, 53.4; C73, §53.2; C75, 77, 79, 81, §53.8]

83 Acts, ch 176, §7; 84 Acts, ch 1291, §12; 86 Acts, ch 1224, §30; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §64; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §62, 115; 2004 Acts, ch 1083, §31, 32, 37; 2007 Acts, ch 59, §25, 26, 38; 2007 Acts, ch 215, §223; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §62, 63; 2009 Acts, ch 143, §1

### **53.9 Prohibited persons.**

No person required to file reports under chapter 68A, and no person acting as an actual or implied agent for a person required to file reports under chapter 68A, shall receive absentee ballots on behalf of voters. This prohibition does not apply to section 53.17.

97 Acts, ch 170, §69

### **53.10 Absentee voting at the commissioner's office.**

1. Not more than forty days before the date of the primary election or the general election, the commissioner shall provide facilities for absentee voting in person at the commissioner's office. This service shall also be provided for other elections as soon as the ballots are ready, but in no case shall absentee ballots be available more than forty days before an election.

2. Each person who wishes to vote by absentee ballot at the commissioner's office shall first sign an application for a ballot including the following information: name, current address, and the election for which the ballot is requested. The person may report a change of address or other information on the person's voter registration record at that time. The registered voter shall immediately mark the ballot; enclose the ballot in a secrecy envelope, if necessary, and seal it in an affidavit envelope; subscribe to the affidavit on the reverse side of the envelope; and return the absentee ballot to the commissioner. The commissioner shall record the numbers appearing on the application and affidavit envelope along with the name of the registered voter.

3. During the hours when absentee ballots are available in the office of the commissioner, electioneering shall not be allowed within the sight or hearing of voters at the absentee voting site.

2002 Acts, ch 1134, §63, 115; 2005 Acts, ch 72, §1; 2007 Acts, ch 215, §224; 2008 Acts, ch 1191, §114

### **53.11 Satellite absentee voting stations.**

1. *a.* Satellite absentee voting stations may be established throughout the cities and county at the direction of the commissioner and shall be established upon receipt of a petition signed by not less than one hundred eligible electors requesting that a satellite absentee voting station be established at a location to be described on the petition. However, if a special election is scheduled in the county on a date that falls between the date of the regular city election and the date of the city runoff election, the commissioner is not required to establish a satellite absentee voting station for the city runoff election.

*b.* A satellite absentee voting station established by petition must be open at least one day for a minimum of six hours. A satellite absentee voting station established at the direction of the commissioner or by petition may remain open until 5:00 p.m. on the day before the election.

2. A petition requesting a satellite absentee voting station must be filed by the following deadlines:

*a.* For a primary or general election, no later than 5:00 p.m. on the forty-seventh day before the election.

*b.* For the regular city election or a city primary election, no later than 5:00 p.m. on the thirtieth day before the election.

c. For a city runoff election, no later than 5:00 p.m. on the twenty-first day before the election.

d. For the regular school election, no later than 5:00 p.m. on the thirtieth day before the election.

e. For a special election, no later than thirty-two days before the special election.

3. Procedures for absentee voting at satellite absentee voting stations shall be the same as specified in section 53.10 for voting at the commissioner's office. Additional procedures shall be prescribed by rule by the state commissioner.

4. During the hours when absentee ballots are available at a satellite absentee voting station, electioneering shall not be allowed within the sight or hearing of voters at the satellite absentee voting station.

5. At least seven days before the date that absentee ballots will be available at a satellite absentee voting station, the commissioner shall notify the county chairperson of each political party of the date, time, and place that the satellite absentee voting station will be in operation in the county, so that the chairpersons may appoint observers to be present at the station during the hours absentee ballots are available. No more than two observers from each political party shall be present at any one satellite absentee voting station.

[SS15, §1137-e; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §937; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.11]

84 Acts, ch 1291, §13; 91 Acts, ch 129, §19; 93 Acts, ch 143, §32; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §65; 97 Acts, ch 170, §70, 71; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §64–66, 115; 2005 Acts, ch 72, §2; 2007 Acts, ch 112, §1–3; 2008 Acts, ch 1191, §115; 2009 Acts, ch 131, §1

#### **53.12 Duty of commissioner.**

The commissioner shall enclose the absentee ballot in an unsealed envelope, to be furnished by the commissioner, which envelope shall bear upon its face the words "*county commissioner of elections*", the address of the commissioner's office, and the same serial number appearing on the unsealed envelope shall be affixed to the application.

[SS15, §1137-f; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §938; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.12]

84 Acts, ch 1291, §14

BLANK

**53.13 Voter's affidavit on envelope.**

On the unsealed envelope shall be printed an affidavit form prescribed by the state commissioner of elections.

[SS15, §1137-f; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §939; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.13]

**53.14 Party affiliation.**

Said affidavit shall designate the voter's party affiliation only in case the ballot enclosed is a primary election ballot.

[SS15, §1137-f; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §940; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.14]

**53.15 Marking ballot.**

The registered voter, on receipt of an absentee ballot, shall mark the ballot in such a manner that no other person will know how the ballot is marked.

Registered voters who are blind, cannot read, or because of any other physical disability, are unable to mark their own absentee ballot, may have the assistance of any person the registered voter may select.

[SS15, §1137-g; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §941; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.15]

84 Acts, ch 1291, §15; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

**53.16 Subscribing to affidavit.**

After marking the ballot, the voter shall make and subscribe to the affidavit on the reverse side of the envelope, and fold the ballot or ballots, separately, so as to conceal the markings on them, and deposit them in the envelope, and securely seal the envelope.

[SS15, §1137-g; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §942; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.16]

84 Acts, ch 1291, §16

**53.17 Mailing or delivering ballot.**

1. The sealed envelope containing the absentee ballot shall be enclosed in a return envelope which shall be securely sealed. The sealed return envelope shall be returned to the commissioner by one of the following methods:

*a.* The sealed return envelope may be delivered by the registered voter, by the voter's designee, or by the special precinct election officials designated pursuant to section 53.22, subsection 1, to the commissioner's office no later than the time the polls are closed on election day. However, if delivered by the voter's designee, the envelope shall be delivered within seventy-two hours of retrieving it from the voter or before the closing of the polls on election day, whichever is earlier.

*b.* The sealed return envelope may be mailed to the commissioner by the registered voter or by the voter's designee. If mailed by the voter's designee, the envelope must be mailed within seventy-two hours of retrieving it from the voter or within time to be postmarked not later than the day before the election, whichever is earlier.

2. In order for the ballot to be counted, the return envelope must be received in the commissioner's office before the polls close on election day or be clearly postmarked by an officially authorized postal service not later than the day before the election and received by the commissioner not later than noon on the Monday following the election.

3. If the law authorizing the election specifies that the supervisors canvass the votes earlier than the Monday following the election, absentee ballots returned through the mail must be received not later than the time established for the canvass by the board of supervisors for that election. The commissioner shall contact the post office serving the commissioner's office at the latest practicable hour before the canvass by the board of supervisors for that election, and shall arrange for absentee ballots received in that post office but not yet delivered to the commissioner's office to be brought to the commissioner's office before the canvass for that election by the board of supervisors.

4. When a person designated by the voter retrieves a completed absentee ballot from the voter, the designee shall, upon request of the voter, fill out a receipt to be retained by the voter. The state commissioner shall prescribe a form for receipts required by this subsection. The receipt shall include all of the following:

- a. The name of the voter's designee.
- b. The date and time the completed absentee ballot was received from the voter.
- c. The name and date of the election for which the absentee ballot is being voted.
- d. The name of the political party, candidate, or committee for which the designee is acting as an actual or implied agent, if applicable.
- e. A telephone number at which the voter's designee may be contacted.
- f. A statement that the completed absentee ballot will be delivered to the commissioner's office within seventy-two hours of retrieving it from the voter or before the closing of the polls on election day, whichever is earlier, or that the completed absentee ballot will be mailed to the commissioner within seventy-two hours of retrieving it from the voter or within time to be postmarked not later than the day before the election, whichever is earlier.

[SS15, §1137-g; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §943; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.17; 81 Acts, ch 34, §36]

84 Acts, ch 1291, §17; 87 Acts, ch 221, §26; 90 Acts, ch 1238, §29; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §64; 94 Acts, ch 1180, §22; 2004 Acts, ch 1083, §33, 37; 2004 Acts, ch 1175, §361, 362; 2007 Acts, ch 59, §27, 38; 2007 Acts, ch 215, §225–228; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §64

### **53.18 Manner of preserving ballot and application — review of affidavit — replacement ballots.**

1. When the return envelope containing the completed absentee ballot is received by the commissioner, the commissioner shall at once record receipt of such ballot. Absentee ballots shall be stored in a secure place until they are delivered to the absentee and special voters precinct board.

2. If the commissioner receives the return envelope containing the completed absentee ballot by 5:00 p.m. on the Saturday before the election for general and primary elections and by 5:00 p.m. on the Friday before the election for all other elections, the commissioner shall open the envelope to review the affidavit for any deficiencies. If the affidavit contains a deficiency that would cause the ballot to be rejected, the commissioner shall, within twenty-four hours of the time the envelope was received, notify the voter of that fact and that the voter may correct the deficiency by 5:00 p.m. on the day before the election.

3. If the affidavit envelope is open when received by the commissioner, or has been opened and resealed, or if the ballot is not enclosed in the affidavit envelope, the commissioner shall immediately notify the voter of that fact and that the voter's absentee ballot shall not be counted unless the voter applies for a replacement ballot and returns the replacement ballot in the time permitted under section 53.17, subsection 2. The replacement ballot application shall be the same as is required for an application under section 53.2. If the information on the replacement ballot application matches the information on the original application, the voter shall be allowed to complete a replacement absentee ballot. The same serial number that was assigned to the records of the original absentee ballot application shall be used on the envelope and records of the replacement ballot. The affidavit envelope containing the completed replacement ballot shall be marked "Replacement ballot". The affidavit envelope containing the original ballot shall be marked "Defective ballot" and the replacement ballot and replacement ballot application shall be attached to the original application and affidavit envelope containing the original ballot and shall be stored in a secure place until they are delivered to the absentee and special voters precinct board, notwithstanding sections 53.26 and 53.27.

4. The state commissioner of elections shall adopt rules for implementation of this section.

[SS15, §1137-h, -i; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §944; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.18]

89 Acts, ch 136, §52; 91 Acts, ch 129, §20; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §67, 115; 2007 Acts, ch 215, §229; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §65

### **53.19 Listing absentee ballots.**

The commissioner shall maintain a list of the absentee ballots provided to registered voters, the serial number appearing on the unsealed envelope, the date the application for the absentee ballot was received, and the date the absentee ballot was sent to the registered voter requesting the absentee ballot.

The commissioner shall provide each precinct election board with a list of all registered voters from that precinct who have received an absentee ballot. The precinct officials shall immediately designate on the election register those registered voters who have received an absentee ballot and are not entitled to vote in person at the polls.

However, any registered voter who has received an absentee ballot and not returned it may surrender the absentee ballot to the precinct officials and vote in person at the polls. The precinct officials shall mark the uncast absentee ballot "void" and return it to the commissioner. Any registered voter who has been sent an absentee ballot by mail but for any reason has not received it or who has not brought the ballot to the polls may appear at the voter's precinct polling place on election day and shall cast a ballot in accordance with section 49.81. Any registered voter who has been notified by the commissioner pursuant to section 53.18 of the need to correct a deficiency on the affidavit or to apply for and vote a replacement absentee ballot and who has not corrected the

deficiency or voted a replacement absentee ballot may appear at the voter's precinct polling place on election day and shall cast a ballot in accordance with section 49.81.

[C71, §53.4; C73, §53.2; C75, 77, 79, 81, §53.19]

94 Acts, ch 1169, §64; 97 Acts, ch 170, §72; 98 Acts, ch 1123, §11; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §68, 115; 2007 Acts, ch 215, §230

**53.20 Special precinct established.**

1. There is established in each county a special precinct to be known as the absentee ballot and special voters precinct. Its jurisdiction shall be conterminous with the borders of the county, for the purposes specified by sections 53.22 and 53.23, and the requirement that precincts not cross the boundaries of legislative districts shall not be applicable to it. The commissioner shall draw up an election board panel for the special precinct in the manner prescribed by section 49.15, having due regard for the nature and extent of the duties required of members of the election board and the election officers to be appointed from the panel.

2. *a.* Results from the special precinct shall be reported separately from the results of the ballots cast at the polls on election day. The commissioner shall for general elections also report the results of the special precinct by the resident precincts of the voters who cast absentee and provisional ballots. For all other elections, the commissioner may report the results of the special precinct by the resident precincts of the voters who cast absentee and provisional ballots, or may report the absentee results as a single precinct.

*b.* For the general election and for any election in which the commissioner determines in advance of the election to report the results of the special precinct by the resident precincts of the voters who cast absentee and provisional ballots, the commissioner shall prepare a separate absentee ballot style for each precinct in the county and shall program the voting system to produce reports by the resident precincts of the voters.

[C77, 79, 81, §53.20]

2008 Acts, ch 1159, §1; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §66

**53.21 Replacement of lost or spoiled absentee ballots.**

1. A voter who has requested an absentee ballot may obtain a replacement ballot if the voter declares that the original ballot was lost or did not arrive. The commissioner upon receipt of a written or oral request for a replacement ballot shall provide a duplicate ballot. The same serial number that was assigned to the records of the original absentee ballot request shall be used on the envelopes and records of the replacement ballot.

2. *a.* The commissioner shall include with the replacement ballot two copies of a statement in substantially the following form:

The absentee ballot which I requested on ..... (date) has been lost or was never received. If I find this absentee ballot I will return it, unvoted, to the commissioner.

.....  
(Signature of voter)

.....  
(Date)

*b.* The voter shall enclose one copy of the above statement in the return envelope with the affidavit envelope and retain a copy for the voter's records.

3. *a.* A voter who spoils an absentee ballot may return it to the commissioner. The outside of the return envelope shall be marked "SPOILED BALLOT". The commissioner shall replace the ballot in the manner provided in this section for lost ballots.

*b.* An absentee ballot returned to the commissioner without a designation that the ballot was spoiled shall not be replaced.

89 Acts, ch 136, §53; 93 Acts, ch 143, §33; 2007 Acts, ch 215, §231; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §67

**53.22 Balloting by confined persons.**

1. *a.* (1) A registered voter who has applied for an absentee ballot, in a manner other than that prescribed by section 53.10 or 53.11, and who is a resident or patient in a health care facility or hospital located in the county to which the application has been submitted shall be delivered the appropriate absentee ballot by two special precinct election officers, one of whom shall be a member of each of the political parties referred to in section 49.13, who shall be appointed by the commissioner from the election board panel for the special precinct established by section 53.20. The special precinct election officers shall be sworn in the manner provided by section 49.75 for election board members, shall receive compensation as provided in section 49.20, and shall perform their duties during the ten calendar days after the ballots are printed if the commissioner so elects, during the fourteen calendar days preceding the election, and on election day if all ballots requested under section 53.8, subsection 3, have not previously been delivered and returned.

(2) If materials are prepared for the two special precinct election officials, a list shall be made of all voters to whom ballots are to be delivered. The list shall be sent with the officials who deliver the ballots and shall include spaces to indicate whether the person was present at the hospital or health care facility when the officials arrived, whether the person requested assistance from the officials, whether the person was assisted by another person of the voter's choice, the time that the ballot was returned to the officials, and any other notes the officials deem necessary.

(3) The officials shall also be issued a supply of extra ballots to replace spoiled ballots. Receipts shall be issued in substantially the same form as receipts issued to precinct election officials pursuant to section 49.65. All ballots shall be accounted for and shall be returned to the commissioner. Separate envelopes shall be provided for the return of spoiled ballots and unused ballots.

b. If an applicant under this subsection notifies the commissioner that the applicant will not be available at the health care facility or hospital address at any time during the ten-day period after the ballots are printed, if applicable or, during the fourteen-day period immediately prior to the election, but will be available there at some other time prior to the election or on election day, the commissioner shall direct the two special precinct election officers to deliver the applicant's ballot at an appropriate time preceding the election or on election day. If a person who so requested an absentee ballot has been dismissed from the health care facility or hospital, the special precinct election officers may take the ballot to the voter if the voter is currently residing in the county.

c. The special precinct election officers shall travel together in the same vehicle and both shall be present when an applicant casts an absentee ballot. If either or both of the special precinct election officers fail to appear at the time the duties set forth in this section are to be performed, the commissioner shall at once appoint some other person, giving preference to persons designated by the respective county chairpersons of the political parties described in section 49.13, to carry out the requirements of this section. The persons authorized by this subsection to deliver an absentee ballot to an applicant, if requested, may assist the applicant in filling out the ballot as permitted by section 49.90. After the voter has securely sealed the marked ballot in the envelope provided and has subscribed to the oath, the voted absentee ballots shall be deposited in a sealed container which shall be returned to the commissioner on the same day the ballots are voted. On election day the officers shall return the sealed container by the time the polls are closed.

2. Any registered voter who becomes a patient or resident of a hospital or health care facility in the county where the voter is registered to vote within three days prior to the date of any election or on election day may request an absentee ballot during that period or on election day. As an alternative to the application procedure prescribed by section 53.2, the registered voter may make the request directly to the officers who are delivering and returning absentee ballots under this section. Alternatively, the request may be made by telephone to the office of the commissioner not later than four hours before the close of the polls. If the requester is found to be a registered voter of that county, these officers shall deliver the appropriate absentee ballot to the registered voter in the manner prescribed by this section.

3. For any election except a primary or general election or a special election to fill a vacancy under section 69.14, the commissioner may, as an alternative to subsection 1, mail an absentee ballot to an applicant under this section to be voted and returned to the commissioner in accordance with this chapter. This subsection only applies to applications for absentee ballots from a single health care facility or hospital if there are no more than two applications from that facility or hospital.

4. The commissioner shall mail an absentee ballot to a registered voter who has applied for an absentee ballot and who is a patient or resident of a hospital or health care facility outside the county in which the voter is registered to vote.

5. a. If the registered voter becomes a patient or resident of a hospital or health care facility outside the county where the voter is registered to vote within three days before the date of any election or on election day, the voter may designate a person to deliver and return the absentee ballot. The designee may be any person the voter chooses except that no candidate for any office to be voted upon for the election for which the ballot is requested may deliver a ballot under this subsection. The request for an absentee ballot may be made by telephone to the office of the commissioner not later than four hours before the close of the polls. If the requester is found to be a registered voter of that

county, the ballot shall be delivered by mail or by the person designated by the voter. An application form shall be included with the absentee ballot and shall be signed by the voter and returned with the ballot.

*b.* Absentee ballots voted under this subsection shall be delivered to the commissioner no later than the time the polls are closed on election day. If the ballot is returned by mail the return envelope must be received by the time the polls close, or clearly postmarked by an officially authorized postal service not later than the day before the election and received by the commissioner no later than the time established for the canvass by the board of supervisors for that election.

6. Observers representing candidates, political parties, or nonparty political organizations, or observers who are opponents or proponents of a ballot issue to be voted on at the election are prohibited from being present at a hospital or health care facility during the time the special precinct election officers are delivering absentee ballots to the residents of such hospital or health care facility.

[C71, 73, 75, §53.17; C77, 79, 81, §53.22; 81 Acts, ch 34, §37]

84 Acts, ch 1291, §18, 19; 85 Acts, ch 67, §8; 87 Acts, ch 221, §27, 28; 88 Acts, ch 1119, §28; 93 Acts, ch 143, §34; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §65; 94 Acts, ch 1180, §23, 24; 2007 Acts, ch 59, §28, 38; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §68; 2009 Acts, ch 143, §2–4

### **53.23 Special precinct election board.**

1. The election board of the absentee ballot and special voters precinct shall be appointed by the commissioner in the manner prescribed by sections 49.12 and 49.13, except that the number of precinct election officials appointed to the board shall be sufficient to complete the counting of absentee ballots by 10:00 p.m. on election day.

2. The board's powers and duties shall be the same as those provided in chapter 50 for precinct election officials in regular precinct polling places. However, the election board of the special precinct shall receive from the commissioner and count all absentee ballots for all precincts in the county; when two or more political subdivisions in the county hold elections simultaneously the special precinct election board shall count absentee ballots cast in all of the elections so held. The tally list shall be recorded on forms prescribed by the state commissioner.

3. *a.* The commissioner shall set the convening time for the board, allowing a reasonable amount of time to complete counting all absentee ballots by 10:00 p.m. on election day.

*b.* (1) The commissioner may direct the board to meet on the day before the election for the purpose of reviewing the absentee voters' affidavits appearing on the sealed affidavit envelopes. If in the commissioner's judgment this procedure is necessary due to the number of absentee ballots received, the members of the board may open the sealed affidavit envelopes and remove the secrecy envelope containing the ballot, but under no circumstances shall a secrecy envelope be opened before the board convenes on election day, except as provided in paragraph "c". If the affidavit envelopes are opened before election day pursuant to this paragraph "b", two observers, one appointed by each of the two political parties referred to in section 49.13, subsection 2, shall witness the proceedings. The observers shall be appointed by the county chairperson or, if the county chairperson fails to make an appointment, by the state chairperson. However, if either or both political parties fail to appoint an observer, the commissioner may continue with the proceedings.

(2) If the board finds any ballot not enclosed in a secrecy envelope and the ballot is folded in such a way that any of the votes cast on the ballot are visible, the two special precinct election officials, one from each of the two political parties referred to in section 49.13, subsection 2, shall place the ballot in a secrecy envelope. No one shall examine the ballot, except as provided in paragraph “c”.

c. For the general election, the commissioner may convene the special precinct election board on the day before the election to begin counting absentee ballots. However, if in the preceding general election the counting of absentee ballots was not completed by 10:00 p.m. on election day, the commissioner shall convene the special precinct election board on the day before the next general election to begin counting absentee ballots. The board shall not release the results of its tabulation pursuant to this paragraph until the count is completed on election day.

4. The room where members of the special precinct election board are engaged in counting absentee ballots on the day before the election pursuant to subsection 3, paragraph “c”, during the hours the polls are open shall be policed so as to prevent any person other than those whose presence is authorized by this subsection from obtaining information about the progress of the count. The only persons who may be admitted to that room are the members of the board, one challenger representing each political party, one observer representing any nonparty political organization or any candidate nominated by petition pursuant to chapter 45 or any other nonpartisan candidate in a city or school election appearing on the ballot of the election in progress, one observer representing persons supporting a public measure appearing on the ballot and one observer representing persons opposed to such measure, and the commissioner or the commissioner’s designee. It shall be unlawful for any of these persons to communicate or attempt to communicate, directly or indirectly, information regarding the progress of the count at any time while the board is convened pursuant to subsection 3, paragraph “c”, or at any time before the polls are closed.

5. The special precinct election board shall preserve the secrecy of all absentee and provisional ballots. After the affidavits on the envelopes have been reviewed and the qualifications of the persons casting the ballots have been determined, those that have been accepted for counting shall be opened. The ballots shall be removed from the affidavit envelopes without being unfolded or examined, and then shall be thoroughly intermingled, after which they shall be unfolded and tabulated. If secrecy folders or envelopes are used with provisional paper ballots, the ballots shall be removed from the secrecy folders after the ballots have been intermingled.

6. The special precinct election board shall not release the results of its tabulation on election day until all of the ballots it is required to count on that day have been counted, nor release the tabulation of provisional ballots accepted and counted under chapter 50 until that count has been completed.

[SS15, §1137-j; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §949; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.23]

90 Acts, ch 1238, §30; 92 Acts, ch 1163, §13; 95 Acts, ch 189, §16; 97 Acts, ch 170, §73; 2005 Acts, ch 19, §23; 2007 Acts, ch 59, §29, 38; 2007 Acts, ch 215, §232; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §104; 2009 Acts, ch 140, §1

**53.24 Counties using voting machines.** Repealed by 2009 Acts, ch 57, § 96.

**53.25 Rejecting ballot.**

1. If the absentee voter's affidavit lacks the voter's signature, if the applicant is not a duly registered voter on election day in the precinct where the absentee ballot was cast, if the affidavit envelope contains more than one ballot of any one kind, or if the voter has voted in person, such vote shall be rejected by the absentee and special voters precinct board. If the affidavit envelope is open, or has been opened and resealed, or if the ballot is not enclosed in the affidavit envelope, and an affidavit envelope with the same serial number and marked "Replacement ballot" is not attached as provided in section 53.18, the vote shall be rejected by the absentee and special voters precinct board.

2. If the absentee ballot is rejected prior to the opening of the affidavit envelope, the voter casting the ballot shall be notified by a precinct election official by the time the canvass is completed of the reason for the rejection on a form prescribed by the state commissioner of elections.

[SS15, §1137-j; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §951; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.25]

94 Acts, ch 1169, §64; 2007 Acts, ch 215, §234; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §69

**53.26 Rejected ballots — how handled.**

Every ballot not counted shall be endorsed on the back thereof "Rejected because (giving reason therefor)." All rejected ballots shall be enclosed and securely sealed in an envelope on which the precinct election officials shall endorse "Defective ballots", with a statement of the precinct in which and the date of the election at which they were cast, signed by the precinct election officials and returned to the same officer and in the same manner as by law provided for the return and preservation of official ballots voted at such election.

[SS15, §1137-j; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §952; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.26]

Return of rejected ballots, §50.5

**53.27 Rejection of ballot — return of envelope.**

If the ballot is rejected, the affidavit envelope, with the affidavit of the voter endorsed thereon, shall be returned with the rejected ballot in the envelope endorsed "Defective ballots".

[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §953; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.27]  
2007 Acts, ch 215, §235

**53.28 and 53.29** Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, § 401.

**53.30 Ballots, ballot envelopes, and other information preserved.**

At the conclusion of each meeting of the absentee and special voter's precinct board, the board shall securely seal all ballots counted by them in the manner prescribed in section 50.12. The ballot envelopes, including the envelope having the registered voter's affidavit on it, the return envelope, and secrecy envelope bearing the signatures of precinct election officials, as required by section 53.23, shall be preserved. All applications for absentee ballots, ballots rejected without being opened, absentee ballot logs, and any other documents pertaining to the absentee ballot process shall be preserved until such time as the documents may be destroyed pursuant to section 50.19.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §956; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.30]  
95 Acts, ch 67, §53; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §69, 115; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §70

**53.31 Challenges.**

1. Any person qualified to vote at the election in progress may challenge the qualifications of a person casting an absentee ballot by submitting a written challenge to the commissioner no later than five p.m. on the Friday before the election. It is the duty of the special precinct officials to challenge the absentee ballot of any person whom the official knows or suspects is not duly qualified. Challenges by members of the special precinct election board or observers present pursuant to section 53.23 may be made at any time before the close of the polls on election day. The challenge shall state the reasons for which the challenge is being submitted and shall be signed by the challenger. When a challenge is received the absentee ballot shall be set aside for consideration by the special precinct election board when it meets as required by section 50.22.

2. The commissioner shall immediately send a written notice to the elector whose qualifications have been challenged. The notice shall be sent to the address at which the challenged elector is registered to vote. If the ballot was mailed to the challenged elector, the notice shall also be sent to the address to which the ballot was mailed if it is different from the elector's registration address. The notice shall advise the elector of the reason for the challenge, the date and time that the special precinct election board will reconvene to determine challenges, and that the elector has the right to submit written evidence of the elector's qualifications. The notice shall include the telephone number of the commissioner's office. If the commissioner has access to a facsimile machine, the notice shall include the telephone number of the facsimile machine. As far as possible, other procedures for considering provisional ballots shall be followed.

[SS15, §1137-k; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §957; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.31]

93 Acts, ch 143, §35; 2005 Acts, ch 19, §25; 2007 Acts, ch 59, §30, 38  
Challenges, §49.79–49.81

**53.32 Ballot of deceased voter.**

When it shall be made to appear by due proof to the precinct election officials that any elector, who has so marked and forwarded a ballot, has died before the affidavit envelope is opened, then the ballot of such deceased voter shall be endorsed, "Rejected because voter is dead", and be returned to the commissioner; but the casting of the ballot of a deceased voter shall not invalidate the election.

[SS15, §1137-l; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §958; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.32]  
2007 Acts, ch 215, §236

**53.33** Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, § 401.

**53.34 False affidavit.**

Any person who shall willfully swear falsely to any of such affidavits shall be guilty of a fraudulent practice.

[SS15, §1137-n; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §960; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.34]

**53.35 Refusal to return ballot.** Repealed by 2007 Acts, ch 59, § 37, 38.

**53.35A Failure to return ballot.**

It is unlawful for any person designated by the commissioner, or by the elector casting the absentee ballot, to deliver the sealed envelope containing the absentee ballot, to willfully fail to return the ballot to the commissioner or the commissioner's designee.

93 Acts, ch 143, §36; 2002 Acts, ch 1071, §13

**53.36** Repealed by 2002 Acts, ch 1071, § 15. See § 39A.2–39A.5.

ABSENT VOTING BY ARMED FORCES

**53.37 Definitions.**

1. This division is intended to implement the federal Uniform and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1973ff et seq.

2. The term "*armed forces of the United States*", as used in this division, shall mean the army, navy, marine corps, coast guard, and air force of the United States.

3. For the purpose of absentee voting only, there shall be included in the term "*armed forces of the United States*" the following:

*a.* Spouses and dependents of members of the armed forces while in active service.

*b.* Members of the merchant marine of the United States and their spouses and dependents.

*c.* Civilian employees of the United States in all categories serving outside the territorial limits of the several states of the United States and the District of Columbia and their spouses and dependents when residing with or accompanying them, whether or not the employee is subject to the civil service laws and the Classification Act of 1949, and whether or not paid from funds appropriated by the Congress.

*d.* Members of religious groups or welfare agencies assisting members of the armed forces, who are officially attached to and serving with the armed forces, and their spouses and dependents.

*e.* Citizens of the United States who do not fall under any of the categories described in paragraphs "*a*" through "*d*", but who are entitled to register and vote pursuant to section 48A.5, subsection 4.

4. For the purposes of this division, “*qualified voter*” means a person who is included within the term “*armed forces of the United States*” as described in this section, who would be qualified to register to vote under section 48A.5, subsection 2, except for residency, and who is not disqualified from registering to vote and voting under section 48A.6.

[C54, 58, 62, 66, §53.37; C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, §53.37, 53.49; C81, §53.37]

94 Acts, ch 1180, §25; 95 Acts, ch 67, §8; 2001 Acts, ch 56, §4; 2007 Acts, ch 59, §31, 38; 2007 Acts, ch 215, §243

#### **53.37A State commissioner duties.**

The state commissioner of elections shall provide information regarding voter registration procedures and absentee ballot procedures to be used by members of the armed forces of the United States. The state commissioner shall accept valid voter registration applications and absentee ballot applications and shall forward the applications to the appropriate county commissioner of elections in a timely manner.

2004 Acts, ch 1083, §34, 37

#### **53.38 What constitutes registration.**

Whenever a ballot is requested pursuant to section 53.39 or 53.45 on behalf of a voter in the armed forces of the United States, the affidavit upon the affidavit envelope of such voter, if the voter is found to be an eligible elector of the county to which the ballot is submitted, shall constitute a sufficient registration under chapter 48A. A completed federal postcard registration and federal absentee ballot request form submitted by such eligible elector shall also constitute a sufficient registration under chapter 48A. The commissioner shall place the voter’s name on the registration record as a registered voter if it does not already appear there. The identification requirements of section 48A.8 and the verification requirements of section 48A.25A do not apply to persons who register to vote under this division.

[C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.38]

88 Acts, ch 1119, §29; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §55; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §70, 115; 2007 Acts, ch 59, §32, 38; 2007 Acts, ch 215, §237

#### **53.39 Request for ballot — when available.**

Section 53.2 does not apply in the case of a qualified voter of the state of Iowa serving in the armed forces of the United States. In any such case an application for ballot as provided for in that section is not required and an absent voter’s ballot shall be sent or made available to any such qualified voter upon a request as provided in this division.

All official ballots to be voted by qualified absent voters in the armed forces of the United States at the primary election and the general election shall be printed prior to forty days before the respective elections and shall be available for transmittal to such qualified voters in the armed forces of the United States at least forty days before the respective elections. The provisions of this chapter apply to absent voting by qualified voters in the armed forces of the United States except as modified by the provisions of this division.

[C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.39]

89 Acts, ch 136, §54; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §64; 94 Acts, ch 1180, §26; 95 Acts, ch 67, §9

#### **53.40 Request requirements — transmission of ballot.**

1. *a.* A request in writing for a ballot may be made by any member of the armed forces of the United States who is or will be a qualified voter on the day

of the election at which the ballot is to be cast, at any time before the election. Any member of the armed forces of the United States may request ballots for all elections to be held through the next two general elections. The request may be made by using the federal postcard application form and indicating that the applicant wishes to receive ballots for all elections as permitted by state law. The county commissioner shall send the applicant a ballot for each election held after the application is received and through the next two general elections. The commissioner shall forward a copy of the absentee ballot request to other commissioners who are responsible under section 47.2, subsection 2, for conducting elections in which the applicant is eligible to vote.

b. Unless the request specifies otherwise, a request for the primary election shall also be considered a request for the general election. In the case of the general election, request may be made not more than seventy days before the election, for and on behalf of a voter in the armed forces of the United States by a spouse, parent, parent-in-law, adult brother, adult sister, or adult child of the voter, residing in the county of the voter's residence. However, a request made by other than the voter may be required to be made on forms prescribed by the state commissioner.

c. A request shall show the residence, including street address, if any, of the voter and the age of the voter and shall designate the address to which the ballot is to be sent. In the case of the primary election, the request shall also show the party affiliation of the voter. The request shall be made to the commissioner of the county of the voter's residence. However, if the request is made by the voter to any elective state, city, or county official, the official shall forward it to the commissioner of the county of the voter's residence, and such request so forwarded shall have the same force and effect as if made directly to the commissioner by the voter.

2. The commissioner shall immediately on the fortieth day prior to the particular election transmit ballots to the voter by mail or otherwise, postage prepaid, as directed by the state commissioner, requests for which are in the commissioner's hands at that time, and thereafter so transmit ballots immediately upon receipt of requests. A request for ballot for the primary election which does not state the party affiliation of the voter making the request is void and of no effect. A request which does not show that the person for whom a ballot is requested will be a qualified voter in the precinct in which the ballot is to be cast on the day of the election for which the ballot is requested, shall not be honored. However, a request which states the age and the city, including street address, if any, or township, and county where the voter resides, and which shows a sufficient period of residence, is sufficient to show that the person is a qualified voter. A request by the voter containing substantially the information required is sufficient.

3. If the affidavit on the affidavit envelope shows that the affiant is not a qualified voter on the day of the election at which the ballot is offered for voting, the envelope shall not be opened, but the envelope and ballot contained in the envelope shall be preserved and returned by the precinct election officials to the commissioner, who shall preserve them for the period of time and under the conditions provided for in sections 50.12 through 50.15 and section 50.19.

[C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.40]

84 Acts, ch 1219, §3; 87 Acts, ch 221, §18; 89 Acts, ch 136, §55; 94 Acts, ch 1180, §27; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §71, 115; 2004 Acts, ch 1083, §35, 37; 2007 Acts, ch 215, §238; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §71

3. Federal write-in absentee ballots may be used in primary and general elections, and in special elections held pursuant to section 69.14. The federal write-in absentee ballot transmission envelope may also serve as an application for voter registration if the information submitted is sufficient to register the person to vote and the applicant is otherwise eligible to vote under the provisions of this division.

4. The federal write-in ballot shall not be counted if any of the following apply:

*a.* The ballot was submitted from within the United States, unless the voter is a member of the armed forces of the United States as described in section 53.37, subsection 2, on active duty, and away from the voter's county of residence for purposes of serving on active duty.

*b.* The voter's application for a regular absentee ballot was received by the commissioner less than fourteen days prior to the election. However, if the voter's application for a regular absentee ballot is not received by the commissioner and if the federal write-in absentee ballot is not prohibited by another provision of this subsection, a federal write-in absentee ballot cast by the voter and received by the commissioner is valid.

*c.* The voter's completed regular or special Iowa absentee ballot was received by the deadline for return of absentee ballots established in section 53.17.

*d.* The voter's federal write-in ballot was received after the deadline for return of absentee ballots established in section 53.17.

5. A federal write-in ballot received by the state commissioner of elections shall be forwarded immediately to the appropriate county commissioner. However, if the state commissioner receives a federal write-in ballot after election day and before noon on the Monday following an election, the state commissioner shall at once verify that the voter has complied with the requirements of this section and that the voter's federal write-in ballot is eligible to be counted. If the ballot is eligible to be counted, the state commissioner shall notify the appropriate county commissioner and make arrangements for the ballot to be transmitted to the county for counting. If the ballot is not eligible to be counted, the state commissioner shall mail the ballot to the appropriate commissioner along with notification that the ballot is ineligible to be counted. The county commissioner shall keep the ballot with the other records of the election.

6. The county commissioner shall notify a voter when the voter's federal write-in ballot was not counted and shall give the voter the reason the ballot was not counted.

88 Acts, ch 1119, §31; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §56; 94 Acts, ch 1180, §30; 2004 Acts, ch 1083, §36, 37; 2007 Acts, ch 59, §35, 36, 38; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §72

BLANK

## MISCELLANEOUS SECTIONS

### LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR CANDIDACY AND PUBLIC SERVICE

#### **55.1 Leave of absence for service in elective office.**

1. A person who is elected to a municipal, county, state, or federal office shall, upon written application to the employer of that person, be granted a leave of absence from regular employment to serve in that office except where prohibited by the federal law. The leave of absence may be granted without pay, except that if a salaried employee takes leave without pay from regular employment for a portion of a pay period, the employee's salaried compensation for that pay period shall be reduced by the ratio of the number of days of leave taken to the total number of days in the pay period. The leave of absence shall be granted without loss of net credited service and benefits earned. This section shall not be construed to require an employer to pay pension, health, or other benefits during the leave of absence to an employee taking a leave of absence under this section.

2. A leave of absence for a person regularly employed pursuant to chapter 8A, subchapter IV, is subject to section 8A.416.

3. An employee shall not be prohibited from returning to regular employment before the period expires for which the leave of absence was granted. This section applies only to employers which employ twenty or more full-time persons. The leave of absence granted by this section does not apply to an elective office held by the employee prior to the election.

4. Temporary substitute teachers and teachers hired on a temporary basis to replace teachers who have been granted leaves of absence pursuant to this section are not subject to the provisions of chapter 279 relating to the termination of continuing contracts.

84 Acts, ch 1233, §1; 2003 Acts, ch 145, §153; 2008 Acts, ch 1171, §58, 59

Multiple elective offices, see §39.11, 39.12, 441.17(1)

#### **55.4 Leave of absence for public employee candidacy.**

Any public employee who becomes a candidate for any elective public office shall, upon request of the employee and commencing anytime within thirty days prior to a contested primary, special, or general election and continuing until after the day following that election, automatically be given a period of leave. If the employee is under chapter 8A, subchapter IV, the employee may choose to use accrued vacation leave, accrued compensatory leave or leave without pay to cover these periods. The appointing authority may authorize other employees to use accrued vacation leave or accrued compensatory leave instead of leave without pay to cover these periods. An employee who is a candidate for any elective public office shall not campaign while on duty as an employee.

This section does not apply to employees of the federal government or to a public employee whose position is financed by federal funds if the application of this section would be contrary to federal law or result in the loss of the federal funds.

86 Acts, ch 1021, §2; 2003 Acts, ch 145, §154

**55.5 Penalties.**

A person violating this chapter is guilty of a simple misdemeanor. Each day in which the violation continues is a separate offense.

84 Acts, ch 1233, §2

C85, §55.2

C87, §55.5

## CHAPTER 62

## CONTESTING ELECTIONS OF COUNTY OFFICERS

Chapter applicable to primary elections, §43.5

62.1	Definitions.	62.13	Procedure — powers of court.
62.1A	Contest court established.	62.14	Sufficiency of statement.
62.2	Contest court members sworn.	62.15	Amendment — continuance.
62.3	Clerk.	62.16	Testimony.
62.4	Sheriff to attend.	62.17	Voters required to testify.
62.5	Statement of intent to contest.	62.18	Judgment.
62.6	Bond.	62.19	How enforced.
62.7	When auditor is party.	62.20	Appeal.
62.8	Repealed by 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §114, 115.	62.21	Judgment.
62.9	Trial — notice.	62.22	Process — fees.
62.10	Place of trial.	62.23	Compensation.
62.11	Subpoenas.	62.24	Costs.
62.12	Postponement.	62.25	How collected.

**62.1 Definitions.**

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, “*book*”, “*list*”, “*record*”, or “*schedule*” kept by a county auditor, assessor, treasurer, recorder, sheriff, or other county officer means the county system as defined in section 445.1.

2000 Acts, ch 1148, §1

**62.1A Contest court established.**

The court for the trial of contested county elections shall consist of one member named by the contestant and one member named by the incumbent. If the incumbent fails to name a member, the chief judge of the judicial district shall be notified of the failure to appoint. The chief judge shall designate the second member within one week after the chief judge is notified. These two members shall meet within three days and select a third member to serve as the presiding member of the court. If they cannot agree on the third member of the court within three days after their initial meeting, the chief judge of the judicial district shall be notified of the failure to agree. The chief judge shall designate the presiding member within one week after the chief judge is notified.

[C51, §343; R60, §573; C73, §695; C97, §1201; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §1020; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §62.1]

97 Acts, ch 170, §76

C2001, §62.1A

2009 Acts, ch 133, §16

**62.2 Contest court members sworn.**

Members of the contest court shall be sworn in the same manner and form as trial jurors are sworn in trials of civil actions. When a member fails to appear on the day of trial, that member’s place may be filled by the appointment of another member under the same rule.

[C51, §347, 348; R60, §577, 578; C73, §700; C97, §1206; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §1021; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §62.2]

97 Acts, ch 170, §77; 2009 Acts, ch 133, §17

**62.3 Clerk.**

The county auditor shall be clerk of this court, and keep all papers, and record the proceedings in the election book, in manner similar to the record of the proceedings of the district court, but when the county auditor is a party, the court shall appoint a suitable person as clerk, whose appointment shall be recorded.

[C51, §344; R60, §574; C73, §696; C97, §1202; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §1022; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §62.3]

**62.4 Sheriff to attend.**

The court or presiding judge may direct the attendance of the sheriff or a deputy when necessary.

[C51, §359; R60, §589; C73, §708; C97, §1214; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §1023; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §62.4]

**62.5 Statement of intent to contest.**

1. Within twenty days after the board of supervisors declares a winner from the canvass of an election, the contestant shall file with the commissioner a written statement of intention to contest the election. If a recount is held for the office in question, and the recount board finds that the winner was someone other than the person declared at the original canvass of votes, a contest may be filed within twenty days after the board of supervisors declares a winner from the recount of votes.

2. The contestant's statement shall include the following:

a. The name of the contestant and that the contestant is qualified to hold such office.

b. The name of the incumbent.

c. The office contested.

d. The date of the election.

e. The particular causes of the contest pursuant to section 57.1, subsection 2. If a cause of the contest is an allegation that illegal votes were received or that legal votes were rejected, a statement shall be included setting forth the names of the persons who are alleged to have voted illegally or whose votes were rejected and the precinct where they voted or offered to vote.

f. The affidavit of the contestant, or some elector of the county, affirming the causes set forth are true.

[C51, §345; R60, §575; C73, §697; C97, §1203; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §1024; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §62.5]

2002 Acts, ch 1134, §75, 114, 115

**62.6 Bond.**

The contestant must also file with the county auditor a bond, with security to be approved by said auditor, conditioned to pay all costs in case the election be confirmed, or the statement be dismissed, or the prosecution fail.

[C51, §345; R60, §575; C73, §697; C97, §1203; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §1025; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §62.6]

**CHAPTER 68A**  
**CAMPAIGN FINANCE**

Transferred from ch 56 in Code Supplement 2003 pursuant  
to Code editor directive; 2003 Acts, ch 40, §9  
Chapter applicable to primary elections; §43.5  
See §68B.32 et seq. for establishment and duties  
of ethics and campaign disclosure board  
See also definitions in §39.3

<p style="text-align: center;">SUBCHAPTER I</p> <p style="text-align: center;">GENERAL PROVISIONS</p> <p>68A.101 Citation and administration.</p> <p>68A.102 Definitions.</p> <p>68A.103 Applicability to federal candidates.</p> <p>68A.104 Certain accounts by officeholders prohibited.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SUBCHAPTER II</p> <p style="text-align: center;">COMMITTEE ORGANIZATION — DUTIES OF OFFICERS</p> <p>68A.201 Organization statement.</p> <p>68A.202 Candidate’s committee.</p> <p>68A.203 Committee treasurer and chairperson — duties.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SUBCHAPTER III</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CAMPAIGN FUNDS AND PROPERTY</p> <p>68A.301 Campaign funds.</p> <p>68A.302 Uses of campaign funds.</p> <p>68A.303 Transfer of campaign funds.</p> <p>68A.304 Campaign property.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SUBCHAPTER IV</p> <p style="text-align: center;">REPORTS — INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURES — POLITICAL MATERIAL</p> <p>68A.401 Reports filed with board.</p> <p>68A.401A Reporting of contributions and expenditures relating to issue advocacy.</p> <p>68A.402 Disclosure report due dates — permanent organization temporarily engaging in political activity required to file reports.</p> <p>68A.402A Information disclosed on reports.</p> <p>68A.402B Committee dissolution or inactivity.</p> <p>68A.403 Reports signed and preserved.</p>	<p>68A.404 Independent expenditures.</p> <p>68A.405 Attribution statement on published material.</p> <p>68A.406 Campaign signs — yard signs.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SUBCHAPTER V</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PROHIBITED ACTS — CONTRIBUTIONS, PUBLIC MONEYS, CAMPAIGN PRACTICES</p> <p>68A.501 Funds from unknown source — escheat.</p> <p>68A.502 Contribution in name of another — prohibited.</p> <p>68A.503 Financial institution, insurance company, and corporation restrictions.</p> <p>68A.504 Prohibiting contributions during the legislative session.</p> <p>68A.505 Use of public moneys for political purposes.</p> <p>68A.506 Use of false caller identification for campaign purposes prohibited.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SUBCHAPTER VI</p> <p style="text-align: center;">INCOME TAX CHECKOFF</p> <p>68A.601 Checkoff — income tax.</p> <p>68A.602 Fund created.</p> <p>68A.603 Rules promulgated.</p> <p>68A.604 Funds.</p> <p>68A.605 Distribution of campaign fund — restrictions on use.</p> <p>68A.606 Funds — campaign expenses only.</p> <p>68A.607 Reversion of funds.</p> <p>68A.608 Income tax form — checkoff space.</p> <p>68A.609 Appropriation.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SUBCHAPTER VII</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PENALTY</p> <p>68A.701 Penalty.</p>
--	--

## SUBCHAPTER I

## GENERAL PROVISIONS

**68A.101 Citation and administration.**

This chapter may be cited as the “*Campaign Disclosure–Income Tax Checkoff Act*”. The Iowa ethics and campaign disclosure board shall administer this chapter as provided in sections 68B.32, 68B.32A, 68B.32B, 68B.32C, and 68B.32D.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §56.1]  
 2003 Acts, ch 40, §9  
 CS2003, §68A.101  
 2009 Acts, ch 42, §1

**68A.102 Definitions.**

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

1. “*Ballot issue*” means a question, other than the nomination or election of a candidate to a public office, which has been approved by a political subdivision or the general assembly or is required by law to be placed before the voters of the political subdivision by a commissioner of elections, or to be placed before the voters by the state commissioner of elections.
2. “*Board*” means the Iowa ethics and campaign disclosure board established under section 68B.32.
3. “*Campaign function*” means any meeting related to a candidate’s campaign for election.
4. “*Candidate*” means any individual who has taken affirmative action to seek nomination or election to a public office and shall also include any judge standing for retention in a judicial election.
5. “*Candidate’s committee*” means the committee designated by the candidate for a state, county, city, or school office to receive contributions in excess of seven hundred fifty dollars in the aggregate, expend funds in excess of seven hundred fifty dollars in the aggregate, or incur indebtedness on behalf of the candidate in excess of seven hundred fifty dollars in the aggregate in any calendar year.
6. “*Clearly identified*” means that a communication contains an unambiguous reference to a particular candidate or ballot issue, including but not limited to one or more of the following:
  - a. Use of the name of the candidate or ballot issue.
  - b. Use of a photograph or drawing of the candidate, or the use of a particular symbol associated with a specific ballot issue.
  - c. Use of a candidate’s initials, nickname, office, or status as a candidate, or use of acronym, popular name, or characterization of a ballot issue.
7. “*Commissioner*” means the county auditor of each county, who is designated as the county commissioner of elections pursuant to section 47.2.
8. “*Committee*” includes a political committee and a candidate’s committee.
9. “*Consultant*” means a person who provides or procures services including but not limited to consulting, public relations, advertising, fundraising, polling, managing or organizing services.
10. a. “*Contribution*” means:
  - (1) A gift, loan, advance, deposit, rebate, refund, or transfer of money or a gift in kind.
  - (2) The payment, by any person other than a candidate or political committee, of compensation for the personal services of another person which are rendered to a candidate or political committee for any such purpose.

**68A.203 Committee treasurer and chairperson — duties.**

1. *a.* Every candidate's committee shall appoint a treasurer who shall be an Iowa resident who has reached the age of majority. Every political committee, state statutory political committee, and county statutory political committee shall appoint both a treasurer and a chairperson, each of whom shall have reached the age of majority.

*b.* Every candidate's committee shall maintain all of the committee's funds in bank accounts in a financial institution located in Iowa. Every political committee, state statutory political committee, and county statutory political committee shall either have an Iowa resident as treasurer or maintain all of the committee's funds in bank accounts in a financial institution located in Iowa.

*c.* An expenditure shall not be made by the treasurer or treasurer's designee for or on behalf of a committee without the approval of the chairperson of the committee, or the candidate. Expenditures shall be remitted to the designated recipient within fifteen days of the date of the issuance of the payment.

2. *a.* An individual who receives contributions for a committee without the prior authorization of the chairperson of the committee or the candidate shall be responsible for either rendering the contributions to the treasurer within fifteen days of the date of receipt of the contributions, or depositing the contributions in the account maintained by the committee within seven days of the date of receipt of the contributions.

*b.* A person, other than a candidate or committee officer, who receives contributions for a committee shall, not later than fifteen days from the date of receipt of the contributions or on demand of the treasurer, render to the treasurer the contributions and an account of the total of all contributions, including the name and address of each person making a contribution in excess of ten dollars, the amount of the contributions, and the date on which the contributions were received.

*c.* The treasurer shall deposit all contributions within seven days of receipt by the treasurer in an account maintained by the committee.

*d.* All funds of a committee shall be segregated from any other funds held by officers, members, or associates of the committee or the committee's candidate. However, if a candidate's committee receives contributions only from the candidate, or if a permanent organization temporarily engages in activity that qualifies it as a political committee and all expenditures of the organization are made from existing general operating funds and funds are not solicited or received for this purpose from sources other than operating funds, then that committee is not required to maintain a separate account in a financial institution.

*e.* Committee funds or committee property shall not be used for the personal benefit of a candidate, officer, member, or associate of the committee. The funds of a committee are not attachable for the personal debt of the committee's candidate or an officer, member, or associate of the committee.

3. The treasurer of a committee shall keep a detailed and exact account of:

*a.* All contributions made to or for the committee.

*b.* The name and mailing address of every person making contributions in excess of ten dollars, and the date and amount of the contribution.

*c.* All disbursements made from contributions by or on behalf of the committee.

*d.* The name and mailing address of every person to whom any expenditure is made, the purpose of the expenditure, the date and amount of the expenditure and the name and address of, and office sought by each candidate, if any, on whose behalf the expenditure was made. Notwithstanding this paragraph, the treasurer may keep a miscellaneous account for disbursements of less than five dollars which need only show the amount of the disbursement so long as the

aggregate miscellaneous disbursements to any one person during a calendar year do not exceed one hundred dollars.

*e.* Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection 3, paragraph “*d*”, of this section, when an expenditure is made by a committee in support of the entire state or local political party ticket, only the name of the party shall be given.

4. The treasurer and candidate in the case of a candidate’s committee, and the treasurer and chairperson in the case of a political committee, shall preserve all records required to be kept by this section for a period of five years. However, a committee is not required to preserve any records for more than three years from the certified date of dissolution of the committee. For purposes of this section, the five-year period shall commence with the due date of the disclosure report covering the activity documented in the records.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §56.3; 81 Acts, ch 35, §3]

83 Acts, ch 139, §3, 14; 86 Acts, ch 1023, §2; 87 Acts, ch 112, §3; 88 Acts, ch 1158, §8; 91 Acts, ch 226, §2; 93 Acts, ch 142, §4; 95 Acts, ch 198, §3; 2003 Acts, ch 40, §1, 9

CS2003, §68A.203

2005 Acts, ch 72, §5; 2007 Acts, ch 14, §4

### SUBCHAPTER III

#### CAMPAIGN FUNDS AND PROPERTY

##### **68A.301 Campaign funds.**

1. A candidate’s committee shall not accept contributions from, or make contributions to, any other candidate’s committee including candidate’s committees from other states or for federal office, unless the candidate for whom each committee is established is the same person. For purposes of this section, “*contributions*” includes monetary and in-kind contributions but does not include travel costs incurred by a candidate in attending a campaign event of another candidate and does not include the sharing of information in any format.

2. This section shall not be construed to prohibit a candidate or candidate’s committee from using campaign funds or accepting contributions for tickets to meals if the candidate attends solely for the purpose of enhancing the person’s candidacy or the candidacy of another person.

91 Acts, ch 226, §9

CS91, §56.40

93 Acts, ch 142, §10; 2003 Acts, ch 40, §9

CS2003, §68A.301

2004 Acts, ch 1042, §4; 2009 Acts, ch 42, §2

##### **68A.302 Uses of campaign funds.**

1. A candidate and the candidate’s committee shall use campaign funds only for campaign purposes, educational and other expenses associated with the duties of office, or constituency services, and shall not use campaign funds for personal expenses or personal benefit. The purchase of subscriptions to newspapers from or which circulate within the area represented by the office which a candidate is seeking or holds is presumed to be an expense that is associated with the duties of the campaign for and duties of office.

2. Campaign funds shall not be used for any of the following purposes:

*a.* Payment of civil or criminal penalties. However, payment of civil penalties relating to campaign finance and disclosure requirements is permitted.

*b.* Satisfaction of personal debts, other than campaign loans.

c. Personal services, including the services of attorneys, accountants, physicians, and other professional persons. However, payment for personal services directly related to campaign activities is permitted.

d. Clothing or laundry expense of a candidate or members of the candidate's family.

e. Purchase of or installment payments for a motor vehicle. However, a candidate may lease a motor vehicle during the duration of the campaign if the vehicle will be used for campaign purposes. If a vehicle is leased, detailed records shall be kept on the use of the vehicle and the cost of noncampaign usage shall not be paid from campaign funds. Candidates and campaign workers may be reimbursed for actual mileage for campaign-related travel at a rate not to exceed the current rate of reimbursement allowed under the standard mileage rate method for computation of business expenses pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code.

f. Mortgage payments, rental payments, furnishings, or renovation or improvement expenses for a permanent residence of a candidate or family member, including a residence in the state capital during a term of office or legislative session.

g. Membership in professional organizations.

h. Membership in service organizations, except those organizations which the candidate joins solely for the purpose of enhancing the candidacy.

i. Meals, groceries, or other food expense, except for tickets to meals that the candidate attends solely for the purpose of enhancing the candidacy or the candidacy of another person. However, payment for food and drink purchased for campaign-related purposes and for entertainment of campaign volunteers is permitted.

j. Payments clearly in excess of the fair market value of the item or service purchased.

k. Payment to a candidate or the candidate's immediate family member as a salary, gratuity, or other compensation. However, reimbursement of expenses as otherwise authorized in this section is permitted. For purposes of this paragraph, "*immediate family member*" means the spouse or dependent child of a candidate.

3. The board shall adopt rules which list items that represent proper campaign expenses.

91 Acts, ch 226, §10

CS91, §56.41

92 Acts, ch 1228, §27, 28; 93 Acts, ch 142, §11; 93 Acts, ch 163, §38; 95 Acts, ch 198, §15; 2003 Acts, ch 40, §9

CS2003, §68A.302

2009 Acts, ch 20, §1

### **68A.303 Transfer of campaign funds.**

1. In addition to the uses permitted under section 68A.302, a candidate's committee may only transfer campaign funds in one or more of the following ways:

a. Contributions to charitable organizations unless the candidate or the candidate's spouse, child, stepchild, brother, brother-in-law, stepbrother, sister, sister-in-law, stepsister, parent, parent-in-law, or stepparent is employed by the charitable organization and will receive a direct financial benefit from a contribution.

b. Contributions to national, state, or local political party central committees, or to partisan political committees organized to represent persons within the boundaries of a congressional district.

c. Transfers to the treasurer of state for deposit in the general fund of the state, or to the appropriate treasurer for deposit in the general fund of a political subdivision of the state.

d. Return of contributions to contributors on a pro rata basis, except that any contributor who contributed five dollars or less may be excluded from the distribution.

e. Contributions to another candidate's committee when the candidate for whom both committees are formed is the same person.

2. If an unexpended balance of campaign funds remains when a candidate's committee dissolves, the unexpended balance shall be transferred pursuant to subsection 1.

3. A candidate or candidate's committee making a transfer of campaign funds pursuant to subsection 1 or 2 shall not place any requirements or conditions on the use of the campaign funds transferred.

4. A candidate or candidate's committee shall not transfer campaign funds except as provided in this section.

5. A candidate, candidate's committee, or any other person shall not directly or indirectly receive or transfer campaign funds with the intent of circumventing the requirements of this section. A candidate for statewide or legislative office shall not establish, direct, or maintain a political committee.

6. A person shall not knowingly make transfers or contributions to a candidate or candidate's committee for the purpose of transferring the funds to another candidate or candidate's committee to avoid the disclosure of the source of the funds pursuant to this chapter. A candidate or candidate's committee shall not knowingly accept transfers or contributions from any person for the purpose of transferring funds to another candidate or candidate's committee as prohibited by this subsection. A candidate or candidate's committee shall not accept transfers or contributions which have been transferred to another candidate or candidate's committee as prohibited by this subsection. The board shall notify candidates of the prohibition of such transfers and contributions under this subsection.

91 Acts, ch 226, §11

CS91, §56.42

92 Acts, ch 1228, §29; 93 Acts, ch 163, §34, 38; 95 Acts, ch 198, §16; 2003 Acts, ch 40, §9

CS2003, §68A.303

2004 Acts, ch 1042, §5; 2009 Acts, ch 42, §3

#### **68A.304 Campaign property.**

1. a. Equipment, supplies, or other materials purchased with campaign funds or received in-kind are campaign property.

b. Campaign property belongs to the candidate's committee and not to the candidate.

c. Campaign property that has a value of five hundred dollars or more at the time it is acquired by the committee shall be separately disclosed as committee inventory on reports filed pursuant to section 68A.402, including a declaration of the approximate current value of the property. The campaign property shall continue to be reported as committee inventory until it is disposed of by the committee or until the property has been reported once as having a residual value of less than one hundred dollars.

*d.* Consumable campaign property is not required to be reported as committee inventory, regardless of the initial value of the consumable campaign property. “*Consumable campaign property*”, for purposes of this section, means stationery, campaign signs, and other campaign materials that have been permanently imprinted to be specific to a candidate or election.

2. Upon dissolution of the candidate’s committee, a report accounting for the disposition of all items of campaign property, excluding consumable campaign property, having a residual value of one hundred dollars or more shall be filed with the board. Campaign property, excluding consumable campaign property, having a residual value of one hundred dollars or more shall be disposed of by one of the following methods:

*a.* Sale of the property at fair market value, in which case the proceeds shall be treated the same as other campaign funds.

*b.* Donation of the property under one of the options for transferring campaign funds set forth in section 68A.303.

3. Consumable campaign property may be disposed of in any manner by the candidate’s committee. A candidate’s committee shall not transfer consumable campaign property to another candidate without receiving fair market value compensation unless the candidate in both campaigns is the same person.

91 Acts, ch 226, §12

CS91, §56.43

93 Acts, ch 163, §38; 95 Acts, ch 198, §17; 2003 Acts, ch 40, §8, 9

CS2003, §68A.304

2005 Acts, ch 72, §6, 7

#### SUBCHAPTER IV

#### REPORTS — INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURES — POLITICAL MATERIAL

##### **68A.401 Reports filed with board.**

1. All statements and reports required to be filed under this chapter shall be filed with the board as provided in section 68A.402, subsection 1. The board shall post on its internet website all statements and reports filed under this chapter. For purposes of this section, the term “*statement*” does not include a bank statement.

*a.* A candidate’s committee of a candidate for statewide office or the general assembly shall file all statements and reports in an electronic format by 4:30 p.m. of the day the filing is due and according to rules adopted by the board. Any other candidate or political committee may submit the statements and reports in an electronic format as prescribed by rule.

*b.* If the board determines that a violation of this subsection has occurred, the board may impose any of the remedies or penalties provided for under section 68B.32D, except that the board shall not refer any complaint or supporting information of a violation of this section to the attorney general or any county attorney for prosecution.

2. The board shall retain filed statements and reports for at least five years from the date of the election in which the committee is involved, or at least five years from the certified date of dissolution of the committee, whichever date is later.

3. The candidate of a candidate’s committee, or the chairperson of any other committee, is responsible for filing statements and reports under this chapter. The board shall send notice to a committee that has failed to file a disclosure

report at the time required under section 68A.402. A candidate of a candidate's committee, or the chairperson of any other committee, may be subject to a civil penalty for failure to file a disclosure report required under section 68A.402.

4. Political committees expressly advocating the nomination, election, or defeat of candidates for both federal office and any elected office created by law or the Constitution of the State of Iowa shall file statements and reports with the board in addition to any federal reports required to be filed with the board. However, a political committee that is registered and filing full disclosure reports of all financial activities with the federal election commission may file verified statements as provided in section 68A.201.

[S13, §1137-a1, -a3; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §974, 975; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §56.3, 56.4; C75, 77, 79, 81, §56.4; 81 Acts, ch 35, §4]

87 Acts, ch 112, §4; 93 Acts, ch 163, §33; 95 Acts, ch 198, §4; 99 Acts, ch 136, §3, 17; 2002 Acts, ch 1073, §3, 11; 2003 Acts, ch 40, §9; 2003 Acts, ch 44, §28

CS2003, §68A.401

2007 Acts, ch 14, §5; 2007 Acts, ch 80, §1, 2, 5

2007 amendment adding paragraphs a and b to subsection 1 applies to committees that file a statement of organization on or after January 1, 2010, and to all committees, regardless of when they file statements of organization, on January 1, 2012; 2007 Acts, ch 80, §5

For future amendment to subsection 1, paragraph a, effective May 1, 2010, see 2009 Acts, ch 8, §1, 2

#### **68A.401A Reporting of contributions and expenditures relating to issue advocacy.**

1. A political organization that is required to file reports with the internal revenue service, pursuant to 26 U.S.C. § 527, shall file a report with the board if that organization does both of the following:

*a.* Creates or disseminates a communication of issue advocacy in this state.

*b.* Receives or expects to receive twenty-five thousand dollars or more in gross receipts in any taxable year.

2. A report required under this section shall contain the following information:

*a.* The amount, date, and purpose of each expenditure made to a person if the aggregate amount of expenditures to such person during the calendar year equals or exceeds five hundred dollars and the name and address of the person, and, in the case of an individual, the occupation and name of employer of the individual.

*b.* The name and address, and, in the case of an individual, the occupation and name of employer of such individual, of all contributors which contributed an aggregate amount of two hundred dollars or more to the organization during the calendar year and the amount and date of the contribution.

3. The board shall by rule establish a procedure for the filing of reports required by this section. To the extent practicable the reporting periods and filing due dates shall be the same as set out in 26 U.S.C. § 527(j)(2).

4. The term "*issue advocacy*" means any print, radio, televised, telephonic, or electronic communication in any form or content, which is disseminated to the general public or a segment of the general public, that refers to a clearly identified candidate for the general assembly or statewide office.

5. The penalty set out in section 68A.701 does not apply to a violation of this section. The penalties for a violation of this section are as set out in section 68B.32D.

2008 Acts, ch 1191, §37

**68A.402 Disclosure report due dates — permanent organization temporarily engaging in political activity required to file reports.**

1. *Filing methods.* Each committee shall file with the board reports disclosing information required under this section on forms prescribed by rule. Except as set out in section 68A.401, reports shall be filed on or before the required due dates by using any of the following methods: mail bearing a United States postal service postmark, hand-delivery, facsimile transmission, electronic mail attachment, or electronic filing as prescribed by rule. Any report that is required to be filed five days or less prior to an election must be physically received by the board to be considered timely filed. For purposes of this section, “*physically received*” means the report is either electronically filed using the board’s electronic filing system or is received by the board prior to 4:30 p.m. on the report due date.

2. *Statewide office, general assembly, and county elections.*

a. *Election year.* A candidate’s committee of a candidate for statewide office, the general assembly, or county office shall file reports in an election year as follows:

Report due:	Covering period:
May 19	January 1 through May 14
July 19	May 15 or Wednesday preceding primary election through July 14
October 19	July 15 through October 14
January 19 (next calendar year)	October 15 or Wednesday preceding general election through December 31

b. *Supplementary report — statewide and general assembly elections.*

(1) A candidate’s committee of a candidate for statewide office or the general assembly shall file a supplementary report in a year in which a primary, general, or special election for that office is held. The supplementary reports shall be filed if contributions are received after the close of the period covered by the last report filed prior to that primary, general, or special election if any of the following applies:

(a) The committee of a candidate for governor receives ten thousand dollars or more.

(b) The committee of a candidate for any other statewide office receives five thousand dollars or more.

(c) The committee of a candidate for the general assembly receives one thousand dollars or more.

(2) The amount of any contribution causing a supplementary report under this paragraph “b” shall include the estimated fair market value of any in-kind contribution. The report shall be filed by the Friday immediately preceding the election and be current through the Tuesday immediately preceding the election.

c. *Nonelection year.* A candidate’s committee of a candidate for statewide office, the general assembly, or county office shall file reports in a nonelection year as follows:

Report due:	Covering period:
January 19	January 1 through December 31 of the previous year

3. *City offices.*

a. *Election year.* A candidate's committee of a candidate for city office shall file a report in an election year as follows:

Report due: Five days before primary election	Covering period: Date of initial activity through ten days before primary election
Five days before general election	Nine days before primary election through ten days before general election
Five days before runoff election (if applicable)	Nine days before the general election through ten days before the runoff election
January 19 (next calendar year)	Cutoff date from previously filed report through December 31

b. *Nonelection year.* A candidate's committee of a candidate for city office shall file a report in a nonelection year as follows:

Report due: January 19 (next calendar year)	Covering period: January 1 through December 31 of nonelection year
---	---

4. *School board and other political subdivision elections.*

a. *Election year.* A candidate's committee of a candidate for school board or any other political subdivision office, except for county and city office, shall file a report in an election year as follows:

Report due: Five days before election	Covering period: Date of initial activity through ten days before election
January 19 (next calendar year)	Nine days before election through December 31

b. *Nonelection year.* A candidate's committee of a candidate for school board or any other political subdivision office, except for county and city office, shall file a report in a nonelection year as follows:

Report due: January 19 (next calendar year)	Covering period: January 1 through December 31 of nonelection year
---	---

5. *Special elections.*

a. A candidate's committee shall file a report by the fifth day prior to a special election that is current through the tenth day prior to the special election.

*b. Special elections — nonelection year.* A candidate's committee at a special election shall file a report in a nonelection year as follows:

Report due:	Covering period:
January 19 (next calendar year)	January 1 through December 31 of nonelection year

*6. Statutory political committees.*

*a.* A state statutory political committee shall file a report on the same dates as a candidate's committee is required to file reports under subsection 2, paragraphs "a" and "c".

*b.* A county statutory political committee shall file a report on the same dates as a candidate's committee is required to file reports under subsection 2, paragraphs "a" and "c".

*7. Political committees.*

*a. Statewide office and general assembly elections.*

(1) *Election year.* A political committee expressly advocating the nomination, election, or defeat of candidates for statewide office or the general assembly shall file a report on the same dates as a candidate's committee is required to file reports under subsection 2, paragraph "a".

(2) *Nonelection year.* A political committee expressly advocating the nomination, election, or defeat of candidates for statewide office or the general assembly shall file a report as follows:

Report due:	Covering period:
July 19	January 1 through June 30
January 19 (next calendar year)	July 1 through December 31

*b. County elections.* A political committee expressly advocating the nomination, election, or defeat of candidates for county office shall file reports on the same dates as a candidate's committee is required to file reports under subsection 2, paragraphs "a" and "c".

*c. City elections.* A political committee expressly advocating the nomination, election, or defeat of candidates for city office shall file reports on the same dates as candidates for city office are required to file reports under subsection 3.

*d. School board and other political subdivision elections.* A political committee expressly advocating the nomination, election, or defeat of candidates for school board or other political subdivision office, except for county office or city office, shall file reports on the same dates as candidates for school board or other political subdivision office are required to file reports under subsection 4.

*8. Political committees — ballot issues.* A political committee expressly advocating the passage or defeat of a ballot issue shall file reports on the same dates as a candidate's committee is required to file reports under subsection 2, paragraphs "a" and "c" and another report five days before an election covering the period from the previous report or date of initial activity through ten days before the election.

*9. Permanent organizations.* A permanent organization temporarily engaging in activity described in section 68A.102, subsection 18, shall organize a political committee and shall keep the funds relating to that political activity segregated from its operating funds. The political committee shall file reports on the appropriate due dates as required by this section. The reports filed under

this subsection shall identify the source of the original funds used for a contribution made to a candidate or a candidate’s committee. When the permanent organization ceases to be involved in the political activity, the permanent organization shall dissolve the political committee. As used in this subsection, “*permanent organization*” means an organization that is continuing, stable, and enduring, and was originally organized for purposes other than engaging in election activities.

10. *Election year defined.* As used in this section, “*election year*” means a year in which the name of the candidate or ballot issue that is expressly advocated for or against appears on any ballot to be voted on by the electors of the state of Iowa. For state and county statutory political committees, and all other political committees except for political committees that advocate for or against ballot issues, “*election year*” means a year in which primary and general elections are held.

[S13, §1137-a1, -a3; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §972, 973, 975, 976; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §56.1, 56.2, 56.4, 56.5; C75, 77, 79, 81, §56.6; 81 Acts, ch 35, §6–8]

83 Acts, ch 139, §4–9, 14; 86 Acts, ch 1023, §5–9; 86 Acts, ch 1224, §38; 87 Acts, ch 112, §6, 7; 89 Acts, ch 107, §1; 90 Acts, ch 1233, §2; 91 Acts, ch 165, §1; 91 Acts, ch 226, §5; 92 Acts, ch 1228, §25; 93 Acts, ch 163, §33; 95 Acts, ch 198, §9, 10; 99 Acts, ch 136, §6, 17; 2002 Acts, ch 1073, §7, 8, 11; 2003 Acts, ch 40, §3, 9

CS2003, §68A.402

2004 Acts, ch 1114, §1; 2004 Acts, ch 1175, §363; 2005 Acts, ch 72, §8–11; 2007 Acts, ch 14, §6; 2007 Acts, ch 61, §1; 2007 Acts, ch 65, §1; 2007 Acts, ch 80, §3; 2008 Acts, ch 1032, §159, 201; 2008 Acts, ch 1184, §24, 28; 2009 Acts, ch 42, §4

**68A.402A Information disclosed on reports.**

- 1. Each report filed under section 68A.402 shall disclose:
  - a. The amount of cash on hand at the beginning of the reporting period.
  - b. The name and mailing address of each person who has made one or more contributions of money to the committee when the aggregate amount in a calendar year exceeds the amount specified in the following schedule:

(1) For any candidate for school or other political subdivision office: .....	\$ 25
(2) For any candidate for city office:.....	\$ 25
(3) For any candidate for county office:.....	\$ 25
(4) For any candidate for the general assembly: .....	\$ 25
(5) For any candidate for statewide office:.....	\$ 25
(6) For any state statutory political committee:.....	\$ 200
(7) For any county statutory political committee:.....	\$ 50
(8) For any political committee:.....	\$ 25

- c. The total amount of contributions made to the committee during the reporting period and not reported under paragraph “b”.

- d. The name and mailing address of each person who has made one or more in-kind contributions to the committee when the aggregate market value of the in-kind contributions in a calendar year exceeds the applicable amount specified in paragraph “b”. In-kind contributions shall be designated on a separate schedule from schedules showing contributions of money and shall identify the nature of the contribution and provide its estimated fair market value.

*e.* Each loan to any person or committee within the calendar year if in the aggregate the amount of the loan or loans exceeds the applicable amount specified in paragraph “*b*”, together with the name and mailing address of the lender and endorsers, the date and amount of each loan received, and the date and amount of each loan repayment. Loans received and loan repayments shall be reported on a separate schedule.

*f.* The name and mailing address of each person to whom disbursements or loan repayments have been made by the committee from contributions during the reporting period and the amount, purpose, and date of each disbursement except that disbursements of less than five dollars may be shown as miscellaneous disbursements so long as the aggregate miscellaneous disbursements to any one person during a calendar year do not exceed one hundred dollars.

*g.* Disbursements made to a consultant and disbursements made by the consultant during the reporting period disclosing the name and address of the recipient, amount, purpose, and date.

*h.* The amount and nature of debts and obligations owed by the committee in excess of the applicable amounts specified in the schedule in paragraph “*b*”. Loans made to a committee and reported under paragraph “*e*” shall not be considered a debt or obligation under this paragraph. A loan made by a committee to any person shall be considered a disbursement.

*i.* If a person listed under paragraph “*b*”, “*d*”, “*e*”, or “*f*” as making a contribution or loan to or purchase from a candidate’s committee is related to the candidate within the third degree of consanguinity or affinity, the existence of that person’s family relationship shall be indicated on the report.

*j.* Campaign property belonging to a candidate’s committee pursuant to section 68A.304.

*k.* Other pertinent information required by this chapter, by rules adopted pursuant to this chapter, or forms prescribed by the board.

2. If a report is the first report filed by a committee, the report shall include all information required under subsection 1 covering the period from the beginning of the committee’s financial activity, even if from a different calendar year, through the end of the current reporting period. If no contributions have been accepted, no disbursements have been made, and no indebtedness has been incurred during that reporting period, the treasurer of the committee shall file a disclosure statement that discloses only the amount of cash on hand at the beginning of the reporting period.

2004 Acts, ch 1114, §2

#### **68A.402B Committee dissolution or inactivity.**

1. If a committee, after having filed a statement of organization or one or more disclosure reports, dissolves or determines that it will no longer receive contributions or make disbursements, the committee shall notify the board within thirty days following such dissolution or determination by filing a dissolution report on forms prescribed by the board.

2. A committee shall not dissolve until all loans, debts, and obligations are paid, forgiven, or transferred and the remaining moneys in the committee’s account are distributed according to sections 68A.302 and 68A.303. If a loan is transferred or forgiven, the amount of the transferred or forgiven loan must be reported as an in-kind contribution and deducted from the loans payable balance on the disclosure form. If, upon review of a committee’s statement of dissolution and final report, the board determines that the requirements for dissolution have been satisfied, the dissolution shall be certified and the committee relieved of further filing requirements.

2004 Acts, ch 1114, §3; 2005 Acts, ch 72, §12

**68A.403 Reports signed and preserved.**

1. Unless filed in an electronic format in accordance with section 68A.401, subsection 1, a report or statement required to be filed under this chapter shall be signed by the person filing the report.

2. A copy of every report or statement shall be preserved by the person filing it or the person's successor for at least three years following the filing of the report or statement.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §56.7]

94 Acts, ch 1180, §35; 2003 Acts, ch 40, §9

CS2003, §68A.403

2004 Acts, ch 1042, §6; 2007 Acts, ch 80, §4

**68A.404 Independent expenditures.**

1. As used in this section, "*independent expenditure*" means one or more expenditures in excess of one hundred dollars in the aggregate for a communication that expressly advocates the nomination, election, or defeat of a clearly identified candidate or the passage or defeat of a ballot issue that is made without the prior approval or coordination with a candidate, candidate's committee, or a ballot issue committee.

2. A person, other than a committee registered under this chapter, that makes one or more independent expenditures shall file an independent expenditure statement.

*a.* The requirement to file an independent expenditure statement under this section does not by itself mean that the person filing the independent expenditure statement is required to register and file reports under sections 68A.201 and 68A.402.

*b.* This section does not apply to a candidate, candidate's committee, state statutory political committee, county statutory political committee, or a political committee. This section does not apply to a federal committee or an out-of-state committee that makes an independent expenditure.

3. *a.* An independent expenditure statement shall be filed within forty-eight hours of the making of an independent expenditure in excess of one hundred dollars in the aggregate.

*b.* An independent expenditure statement shall be filed with the board and the board shall immediately make the independent expenditure statement available for public viewing.

*c.* For purposes of this section, an independent expenditure is made at the time that the cost is incurred.

4. The independent expenditure statement shall contain all of the following information:

*a.* Identification of the individuals or persons filing the statement.

*b.* Description of the position advocated by the individuals or persons with regard to the clearly identified candidate or ballot issue.

*c.* Identification of the candidate or ballot issue benefited by the independent expenditure.

*d.* The dates on which the expenditure or expenditures took place or will take place.

*e.* Description of the nature of the action taken that resulted in the expenditure or expenditures.

*f.* The fair market value of the expenditure or expenditures.

5. Any person making an independent expenditure shall comply with the attribution requirements of section 68A.405.

6. *a.* The board shall develop, prescribe, furnish, and distribute forms for the independent expenditure statements required by this section.

*b.* The board shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A for the implementation of this section.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §56.13; 81 Acts, ch 35, §11]

86 Acts, ch 1023, §10; 93 Acts, ch 163, §33; 94 Acts, ch 1180, §36; 95 Acts, ch 198, §12; 99 Acts, ch 136, §8, 17; 2002 Acts, ch 1073, §9, 11; 2003 Acts, ch 40, §4, 9

CS2003, §68A.404

2005 Acts, ch 72, §13–15; 2006 Acts, ch 1010, §41; 2008 Acts, ch 1191, §116, 117; 2009 Acts, ch 42, §5

### **68A.405 Attribution statement on published material.**

1. *a.* For purposes of this subsection:

(1) “*Individual*” includes a candidate for public office who has not filed a statement of organization under section 68A.201.

(2) “*Organization*” includes an organization established to advocate the passage or defeat of a ballot issue but that has not filed a statement of organization under section 68A.201.

(3) “*Published material*” means any newspaper, magazine, shopper, outdoor advertising facility, poster, direct mailing, brochure, internet website, campaign sign, or any other form of printed general public political advertising.

*b.* Except as set out in subsection 2, published material designed to expressly advocate the nomination, election, or defeat of a candidate for public office or the passage or defeat of a ballot issue shall include on the published material an attribution statement disclosing who is responsible for the published material.

*c.* If the person paying for the published material is an individual, the words “paid for by” and the name and address of the person shall appear on the material.

*d.* If more than one individual is responsible, the words “paid for by”, the names of the individuals, and either the addresses of the individuals or a statement that the addresses of the individuals are on file with the Iowa ethics and campaign disclosure board shall appear on the material.

*e.* If the person responsible is an organization, the words “paid for by”, the name and address of the organization, and the name of one officer of the organization shall appear on the material.

*f.* If the person responsible is a committee that has filed a statement of organization pursuant to section 68A.201, the words “paid for by” and the name of the committee shall appear on the material.

2. The requirement to include an attribution statement does not apply to any of the following:

*a.* The editorials or news articles of a newspaper or magazine that are not paid political advertisements.

*b.* Small items upon which the inclusion of the statement is impracticable including, but not limited to, campaign signs, bumper stickers, pins, buttons, pens, political business cards, and matchbooks.

*c.* T-shirts, caps, and other articles of clothing.

*d.* Any published material that is subject to federal regulations regarding an attribution requirement.

*e.* Any material published by an individual, acting independently, who spends one hundred dollars or less of the individual’s own money to advocate the passage or defeat of a ballot issue.

3. The board shall adopt rules relating to the placing of an attribution statement on published materials.

86 Acts, ch 1023, §11; 86 Acts, ch 1246, §620

C87, §56.14

87 Acts, ch 112, §8; 94 Acts, ch 1178, §1; 95 Acts, ch 198, §13; 96 Acts, ch 1079, §2; 99 Acts, ch 136, §9, 17; 2002 Acts, ch 1119, §125; 2003 Acts, ch 40, §9

CS2003, §68A.405

2004 Acts, ch 1114, §4; 2005 Acts, ch 72, §16; 2009 Acts, ch 41, §27

#### **68A.406 Campaign signs — yard signs.**

1. Campaign signs may be placed with the permission of the property owner or lessee on any of the following:

*a.* Residential property.

*b.* Agricultural land owned by individuals or by a family farm operation as defined in section 9H.1, subsections 8, 9, and 10.

*c.* Property leased for residential purposes including but not limited to apartments, condominiums, college housing facilities, and houses if placed only on leased property space that is actually occupied.

*d.* Vacant lots owned by a person who is not a prohibited contributor under section 68A.503.

*e.* Property owned by an organization that is not a prohibited contributor under section 68A.503.

*f.* Property leased by a candidate, committee, or an organization established to advocate the nomination, election, or defeat of a candidate or the passage or defeat of a ballot issue that has not yet registered pursuant to section 68A.201, when the property is used as campaign headquarters or a campaign office and the placement of the sign is limited to the space that is actually leased.

2. *a.* Campaign signs shall not be placed on any of the following:

(1) Any property owned by the state or the governing body of a county, city, or other political subdivision of the state, including all property considered the public right-of-way. Upon a determination by the board that a sign has been improperly placed, the sign shall be removed by highway authorities as provided in section 318.5, or by county or city law enforcement authorities in a manner consistent with section 318.5.

(2) Property owned, leased, or occupied by a prohibited contributor under section 68A.503 unless the sign advocates the passage or defeat of a ballot issue or is exempted under subsection 1.

(3) On any property without the permission of the property owner or lessee.

(4) On election day either on the premises of any polling place or within three hundred feet of any outside door of any building affording access to any room where the polls are held, or of any outside door of any building affording access to any hallway, corridor, stairway, or other means of reaching the room where the polls are held.

(5) On the premises of or within three hundred feet of any outside door of any building affording access to an absentee voting site during the hours when absentee ballots are available in the office of the county commissioner of elections as provided in section 53.10.

(6) On the premises of or within three hundred feet of any outside door of any building affording access to a satellite absentee voting station during the hours when absentee ballots are available at the satellite absentee voting station as provided in section 53.11.

b. Paragraph “a”, subparagraphs (4), (5), and (6) shall not apply to the posting of signs on private property not a polling place, except that the placement of a sign on a motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer, or any attachment to a motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer parked on public property within three hundred feet of any outside door of any building affording access to any room serving as a polling place, which sign is more than ninety square inches in size, is prohibited.

3. Campaign signs with dimensions of thirty-two square feet or less are exempt from the attribution statement requirement in section 68A.405. Campaign signs in excess of thirty-two square feet, or signs that are affixed to buildings or vehicles regardless of size except for bumper stickers, are required to include the attribution statement required by section 68A.405. The placement or erection of campaign signs shall be exempt from the requirements of chapter 480 relating to underground facilities information.

2004 Acts, ch 1114, §5; 2005 Acts, ch 3, §18; 2005 Acts, ch 72, §17–19; 2006 Acts, ch 1097, §13; 2007 Acts, ch 14, §7; 2007 Acts, ch 215, §244; 2008 Acts, ch 1032, §160; 2008 Acts, ch 1191, §118

#### SUBCHAPTER V

#### PROHIBITED ACTS — CONTRIBUTIONS, PUBLIC MONEYS, CAMPAIGN PRACTICES

##### **68A.501 Funds from unknown source — escheat.**

The expenditure of funds from an unknown or unidentifiable source received by a candidate or committee is prohibited. Such funds received by a candidate or committee shall escheat to the state. Any candidate or committee receiving such contributions shall remit such contributions to the board which shall forward it to the treasurer of state for deposit in the general fund of the state. Persons requested to make a contribution at a fundraising event shall be advised that it is illegal to make a contribution in excess of ten dollars unless the person making the contribution also provides the person’s name and address.

[C77, 79, 81, §56.27]

C91, §56.3A

2003 Acts, ch 40, §9; 2003 Acts, ch 145, §286

CS2003, §68A.501

2007 Acts, ch 14, §8

##### **68A.502 Contribution in name of another — prohibited.**

A person shall not make a contribution or expenditure in the name of another person, and a person shall not knowingly accept a contribution or expenditure made by one person in the name of another. For the purpose of this section, a contribution or expenditure made by one person which is ultimately reimbursed by another person who has not been identified as the ultimate source or recipient of the funds is considered to be an illegal contribution or expenditure in the name of another.

Any candidate or committee receiving funds, the original source of which was a loan, shall be required to list the lender as a contributor. No candidate or committee shall knowingly receive funds from a contributor who has borrowed the money without listing the original source of said money.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §56.12]

95 Acts, ch 198, §11; 2003 Acts, ch 40, §9

CS2003, §68A.502

**68A.503 Financial institution, insurance company, and corporation restrictions.**

1. Except as provided in subsections 3 and 4, it is unlawful for an insurance company, savings and loan association, bank, credit union, or corporation organized pursuant to the laws of this state, the United States, or any other state, territory, or foreign country, whether for profit or not, or an officer, agent, or representative acting for such insurance company, savings and loan association, bank, credit union, or corporation, to contribute any money, property, labor, or thing of value, directly or indirectly, to a committee, or to expressly advocate that the vote of an elector be used to nominate, elect, or defeat a candidate for public office, except that such resources may be so expended in connection with a utility franchise election held pursuant to section 364.2, subsection 4, or a ballot issue. All such expenditures are subject to the disclosure requirements of this chapter.

2. *a.* Except as provided in subsection 3, it is unlawful for a member, employee, or representative of a committee, other than a ballot issue committee, or for a candidate or a representative of a candidate for office to solicit, request, or knowingly receive from an insurance company, savings and loan association, bank, credit union, or corporation organized pursuant to the laws of this state, the United States, or any other state, territory, or foreign country, whether for profit or not, or from an officer, agent, or representative, any money, property, or thing of value belonging to the insurance company, savings and loan association, bank, credit union, or corporation for either of the following purposes:

(1) Campaign expenses.

(2) To expressly advocate that the vote of an elector be used to nominate, elect, or defeat a candidate for public office.

*b.* This section does not restrain or abridge the freedom of the press or prohibit the consideration and discussion in the press of candidacies, nominations, public officers, or public questions.

*c.* This section does not apply to a nonprofit organization communicating with its own members. The board shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A to administer this paragraph.

*d.* The board shall adopt rules prohibiting the owner, publisher, or editor of a sham newspaper from using the sham newspaper to promote in any way the candidacy of such a person for any public office. As used in this paragraph, “*sham newspaper*” means a newspaper that does not meet the requirements set forth in section 618.3 and “*owner*” means a person having an ownership interest exceeding ten percent of the equity or profits of the newspaper.

3. It is lawful for an insurance company, savings and loan association, bank, credit union, and corporation organized pursuant to the laws of this state, the United States, or any other state or territory, whether or not for profit, and for their officers, agents, and representatives, to use the money, property, labor, or any other thing of value of the entity for the purposes of soliciting its stockholders, administrative officers, and members for contributions to a committee sponsored by that entity and of financing the administration of a committee sponsored by that entity. The entity's employees to whom the foregoing authority does not extend may voluntarily contribute to such a committee but shall not be solicited for contributions. All contributions made under this subsection are subject to the disclosure requirements of this chapter. A committee member, committee employee, committee representative, candidate, or representative referred to in subsection 2 lawfully may solicit, request, and receive money, property and other things of value from a committee sponsored by an insurance company, savings and loan association, bank, credit union, or corporation as permitted by this subsection.

4. The prohibitions in subsections 1 and 2 shall not apply to an insurance company, savings and loan association, bank, credit union, or corporation engaged in any of the following activities:

*a.* Using its funds to encourage registration of voters and participation in the political process or to publicize public issues, provided that no part of those contributions is used to expressly advocate the nomination, election, or defeat of any candidate for public office.

*b.* Using its funds to expressly advocate the passage or defeat of ballot issues so long as the transactions are reported as required under section 68A.402.

*c.* The placement of campaign signs as permitted under section 68A.406.

5. For purposes of this section, "committee" shall include statutory political committees organized under chapter 43, and nonparty political organizations organized under chapter 44.

6. Any person convicted of a violation of any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a serious misdemeanor.

[S13, §1641-h, -i, -k; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §8405–8407; C46, 50, 54, 58, §491.69–491.71; C62, 66, 71, 73, 75, §491.69–491.71, 496A.145; C77, 79, 81, §56.29; 81 Acts, ch 35, §14]

83 Acts, ch 139, §13, 14

C91, §56.15

93 Acts, ch 142, §9; 94 Acts, ch 1178, §2; 95 Acts, ch 198, §14; 99 Acts, ch 136, §10, 11, 17; 2003 Acts, ch 40, §9

CS2003, §68A.503

2004 Acts, ch 1042, §7; 2004 Acts, ch 1114, §6; 2004 Acts, ch 1175, §364; 2005 Acts, ch 3, §19; 2005 Acts, ch 72, §20; 2007 Acts, ch 61, §2; 2008 Acts, ch 1031, §23; 2009 Acts, ch 41, §28; 2009 Acts, ch 42, §6

#### **68A.504 Prohibiting contributions during the legislative session.**

1. A lobbyist or political committee, other than a state statutory political committee, county statutory political committee, or a national political party, shall not contribute to, act as an agent or intermediary for contributions to, or arrange for the making of monetary or in-kind contributions to the campaign of an elected state official, member of the general assembly, or candidate for state office on any day during the regular legislative session and, in the case of the governor or a gubernatorial candidate, during the thirty days following the adjournment of a regular legislative session allowed for the signing of bills. Except as set out in subsection 2, an elected state official, member of the general assembly, or candidate for state office shall not accept a contribution as

prohibited in this subsection.

2. The prohibition in subsection 1 shall not apply to the following:

*a.* The receipt of contributions by an elected state official, member of the general assembly, or candidate for state office who has taken affirmative action to seek nomination or election to a federal elective office so long as the contribution is placed in a federal campaign account.

*b.* The receipt of contributions by a candidate for state office who filed nomination papers for an office for which a special election is called or held during the regular legislative session, if the candidate receives the contribution during the period commencing on the date that at least two candidates have been nominated for the office and ending on the date the election is held. A person who is an elected state official shall not solicit contributions during a legislative session from any lobbyist or political committee, other than a state statutory political committee, county statutory political committee, or a national political party, for another candidate for a state office for which a special election is held.

92 Acts, ch 1228, §26

C93, §56.15A

93 Acts, ch 129, §1; 2003 Acts, ch 40, §9

CS2003, §68A.504

2004 Acts, ch 1042, §8

**68A.505 Use of public moneys for political purposes.**

The state and the governing body of a county, city, or other political subdivision of the state shall not expend or permit the expenditure of public moneys for political purposes, including expressly advocating the passage or defeat of a ballot issue.

This section shall not be construed to limit the freedom of speech of officials or employees of the state or of officials or employees of a governing body of a county, city, or other political subdivision of the state. This section also shall not be construed to prohibit the state or a governing body of a political subdivision of the state from expressing an opinion on a ballot issue through the passage of a resolution or proclamation.

91 Acts, ch 226, §7

CS91, §56.12A

93 Acts, ch 142, §8; 99 Acts, ch 136, §7, 17; 2003 Acts, ch 40, §9

CS2003, §68A.505

**68A.506 Use of false caller identification for campaign purposes prohibited.**

1. A person shall not knowingly use or provide to another person either of the following:

*a.* False caller identification information with intent to defraud for purposes related to expressly advocating the nomination, election, or defeat of a clearly identified candidate or for the passage or defeat of a clearly identified ballot issue.

*b.* Caller identification information pertaining to an actual person without that person's consent and with intent to deceive the recipient of a call about the identity of the caller.

2. This section shall not apply to conduct that was lawfully authorized as investigative, protective, or intelligence activity of a law enforcement agency of the United States, a state, or a political subdivision of a state.

3. As used in this section:

a. “*Caller identification information*” means information regarding the origination of the telephone call, such as the name or the telephone number of the caller.

b. “*Telephone call*” means a call made using or received on a telecommunications service or voice over internet protocol service.

c. “*Voice over internet protocol service*” means a service to which all of the following apply:

(1) The service provides real-time two-way voice communications transmitted using internet protocol, or a successor protocol.

(2) The service is offered to the public, or such classes of users as to be effectively available to the public.

(3) The service has the capability to originate traffic to, or terminate traffic from, the public switched telephone network or a successor network.

4. The board shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A to administer this section.

5. A person who violates this section is subject to sections 68A.701 and 68B.32D.

2009 Acts, ch 64, §1

#### SUBCHAPTER VI

#### INCOME TAX CHECKOFF

##### **68A.601 Checkoff — income tax.**

A person whose state income tax liability for any taxable year is one dollar and fifty cents or more may direct that one dollar and fifty cents of that liability be paid over to the Iowa election campaign fund when submitting the person’s state income tax return to the department of revenue. In the case of a joint return of husband and wife having a state income tax liability of three dollars or more, each spouse may direct that one dollar and fifty cents be paid to the fund. The director of revenue shall draft the income tax form to provide spaces on the tax return which the taxpayer may use to designate that contributions made under this section be credited to a specified political party as defined by section 43.2, or to the Iowa election campaign fund as a contribution to be shared by all such political parties in the manner prescribed by section 68A.602. The form shall inform the taxpayer of the consequences of the choices provided under this section, but this information may be contained in a footnote or other suitable form if the director of revenue finds it is not feasible to place the information immediately above the signature line. The action taken by a person for the checkoff is irrevocable.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §56.18]

83 Acts, ch 176, §8, 11; 84 Acts, ch 1263, §1; 85 Acts, ch 230, §1; 86 Acts, ch 1236, §1, 2; 2003 Acts, ch 40, §9; 2003 Acts, ch 145, §286

CS2003, §68A.601

##### **68A.602 Fund created.**

The “*Iowa election campaign fund*” is created within the office of the treasurer of state. The fund shall consist of funds paid by persons as provided in section 68A.601. The treasurer of state shall maintain within the fund a separate account for each political party as defined in section 43.2. The director of revenue shall remit funds collected as provided in section 68A.601 to the treasurer of state who shall deposit such funds in the appropriate account

within the Iowa election campaign fund. All contributions directed to the Iowa election campaign fund by taxpayers who do not designate any one political party to receive their contributions shall be divided by the director of revenue equally among each account currently maintained in the fund. However, at any time when more than two accounts are being maintained within the fund, contributions to the fund by taxpayers who do not designate any one political party to receive their contributions shall be divided among the accounts in the same proportion as the number of registered voters declaring affiliation with each political party for which an account is maintained bears to the total number of registered voters who have declared an affiliation with a political party. Any interest income received by the treasurer of state from investment of moneys deposited in the fund shall be deposited in the Iowa election campaign fund. Such funds shall be subject to payment to the chairperson of the specified political party as authorized by the director of revenue on warrants issued by the director of the department of administrative services in the manner provided by section 68A.605.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §56.19]

83 Acts, ch 176, §9; 95 Acts, ch 67, §53; 2003 Acts, ch 40, §9; 2003 Acts, ch 145, §286  
CS2003, §68A.602  
2004 Acts, ch 1101, §14

#### **68A.603 Rules promulgated.**

The ethics and campaign disclosure board shall administer the provisions of sections 68A.601 through 68A.609 and shall promulgate all necessary rules in accordance with chapter 17A.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §56.20]

93 Acts, ch 163, §33; 2003 Acts, ch 40, §5, 9  
CS2003, §68A.603

#### **68A.604 Funds.**

Any candidate for a partisan public office, except as otherwise provided by section 68A.103, subsection 2, may receive campaign funds from the Iowa election campaign fund through the state central committee of the candidate's political party. However, the state central committee of each political party shall have discretion which of the party's candidates for public office shall be allocated campaign funds out of money received by that party from the Iowa election campaign fund.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §56.21]

2003 Acts, ch 40, §9  
CS2003, §68A.604

#### **68A.605 Distribution of campaign fund — restrictions on use.**

1. The money accumulated in the Iowa election campaign fund to the account of each political party in the state shall be remitted to the party on the first business day of each month by warrant of the director of the department of administrative services drawn upon the fund in favor of the state chairperson of that party. The money received by each political party under this section shall be used as directed by the party's state statutory political committee.

2. Funds distributed to statutory political committees pursuant to this chapter shall not be used to expressly advocate the nomination, election, or defeat of any candidate during the primary election. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit a statutory political committee from using such funds to pay expenses incurred in arranging and holding a nominating convention.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §56.22]

99 Acts, ch 136, §12, 17; 2003 Acts, ch 40, §6, 9; 2003 Acts, ch 145, §286

CS2003, §68A.605

**68A.606 Funds — campaign expenses only.**

1. The chairperson of the state statutory political committee shall produce evidence to the ethics and campaign disclosure board not later than the twenty-fifth day of January each year, that all income tax checkoff funds expended for campaign expenses have been utilized exclusively for campaign expenses.

2. The ethics and campaign disclosure board shall issue, prior to the payment of any money, guidelines that explain which expenses and evidence thereof qualify as acceptable campaign expenses.

3. Should the ethics and campaign disclosure board determine that any part of the funds have been used for noncampaign or improper expenses, the board may order the political party or the candidate to return all or any part of the total funds paid to that political party for that election. When such funds are returned, they shall be deposited in the general fund of the state.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §56.23; 81 Acts, ch 35, §12]

93 Acts, ch 163, §33; 2003 Acts, ch 40, §7, 9; 2003 Acts, ch 145, §286

CS2003, §68A.606

**68A.607 Reversion of funds.**

All funds on account for the campaign expenses of any designated political party which are not utilized by that political party by January 1 of the year following a general election, shall revert to the general fund of the state.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §56.24]

2003 Acts, ch 40, §9

CS2003, §68A.607

**68A.608 Income tax form — checkoff space.**

The director of revenue shall provide space for this campaign finance income tax checkoff on the most frequently used Iowa income tax form. An explanation shall be included which clearly states that this checkoff does not constitute an additional tax liability. The form shall provide for the taxpayer to designate that the checkoff shall go either to the political party of the taxpayer's choice or be divided among all political parties as prescribed by section 68A.602.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §56.25]

2003 Acts, ch 40, §9; 2003 Acts, ch 145, §286

CS2003, §68A.608

**68A.609 Appropriation.**

There is appropriated from the Iowa election campaign fund within the office of the treasurer of state such funds as are legally payable from such fund in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §56.26]

2003 Acts, ch 40, §9

CS2003, §68A.609

SUBCHAPTER VII

PENALTY

**68A.701 Penalty.**

Any person who willfully violates any provisions of this chapter shall upon conviction, be guilty of a serious misdemeanor.

[S13, §1137-a6; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §980; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §56.9; C75, 77, 79, 81, §56.16]

2003 Acts, ch 40, §9

CS2003, §68A.701

3. A restricted donor may give, and a public official, public employee, or candidate, or the person's immediate family member, may accept an otherwise prohibited nonmonetary gift or a series of otherwise prohibited nonmonetary gifts and not be in violation of this section if the nonmonetary gift or series of nonmonetary gifts is donated within thirty days to a public body, the department of administrative services, or a bona fide educational or charitable organization, if no part of the net earnings of the educational or charitable organization inures to the benefit of any private stockholder or other individual. All such items donated to the department of administrative services shall be disposed of by assignment to state agencies for official use or by public sale. A person subject to section 8.7 that receives a gift pursuant to this subsection shall file a report pursuant to section 8.7.

4. Notwithstanding subsections 1 and 2, the following gifts may be received by public officials, public employees, candidates, or members of the immediate family of public officials, public employees, or candidates:

*a.* Contributions to a candidate or a candidate's committee.

*b.* Informational material relevant to a public official's or public employee's official functions, such as books, pamphlets, reports, documents, periodicals, or other information that is recorded in a written, audio, or visual format.

*c.* Anything received from anyone related within the fourth degree by kinship or marriage, unless the donor is acting as an agent or intermediary for another person not so related.

*d.* An inheritance.

*e.* Anything available or distributed free of charge to members of the general public without regard to the official status of the recipient. This paragraph shall not apply to functions described under paragraph "s".

*f.* Items received from a bona fide charitable, professional, educational, or business organization to which the donee belongs as a dues-paying member, if the items are given to all members of the organization without regard to individual members' status or positions held outside of the organization and if the dues paid are not inconsequential when compared to the items received.

*g.* Actual expenses of a donee for food, beverages, registration, travel, and lodging for a meeting, which is given in return for participation in a panel or speaking engagement at the meeting when the expenses relate directly to the day or days on which the donee has participation or presentation responsibilities.

*h.* Plaques or items of negligible resale value which are given as recognition for the public services of the recipient.

*i.* Food and beverages provided at a meal that is part of a bona fide event or program at which the recipient is being honored for public service.

*j.* Nonmonetary items with a value of three dollars or less that are received from any one donor during one calendar day.

*k.* Items or services solicited by or given to a state, national, or regional government organization in which the state of Iowa or a political subdivision of the state is a member for purposes of a business or educational conference, seminar, or other meeting; or solicited by or given to state, national, or regional government organizations, whose memberships and officers are primarily composed of state or local government officials or employees, for purposes of a business or educational conference, seminar, or other meeting.

*l.* Items or services received by members or representatives of members at a regularly scheduled event that is part of a business or educational conference, seminar, or other meeting that is sponsored and directed by any state, national, or regional government organization in which the state of Iowa or a political subdivision of the state is a member, or received at such an event by members

or representatives of members of state, national, or regional government organizations whose memberships and officers are primarily composed of state or local government officials or employees.

*m.* Funeral flowers or memorials to a church or nonprofit organization.

*n.* Gifts which are given to a public official or public employee for the public official's or public employee's wedding or twenty-fifth or fiftieth wedding anniversary.

*o.* Payment of salary or expenses by a person's employer or the firm in which the person is a member for the cost of attending a meeting of a subunit of an agency when the person whose expenses are being paid serves on a board, commission, committee, council, or other subunit of the agency and the person is not entitled to receive compensation or reimbursement of expenses from the state or a political subdivision of the state for attending the meeting.

*p.* Gifts of food, beverages, travel, or lodging received by a public official or public employee if all of the following apply:

(1) The public official or public employee is officially representing an agency in a delegation whose sole purpose is to attract a specific new business to locate in the state, encourage expansion or retention of an existing business already established in the state, or to develop markets for Iowa businesses or products.

(2) The donor of the gift is not the business or businesses being contacted. However, food or beverages provided by the business or businesses being contacted which are consumed during the meeting are not a gift under section 68B.2, subsection 9, or this section.

(3) The public official or public employee plays a significant role in the presentation to the business or businesses on behalf of the public official's or public employee's agency.

*q.* Gifts other than food, beverages, travel, and lodging received by a public official or public employee which are received from a person who is a citizen of a country other than the United States and are given during a ceremonial presentation or as a result of a custom of the other country and are of personal value only to the donee.

*r.* Actual registration costs for informational meetings or sessions which assist a public official or public employee in the performance of the person's official functions. The costs of food, drink, lodging, and travel are not "registration costs" under this paragraph. Meetings or sessions which a public official or public employee attends for personal or professional licensing purposes are not "informational meetings or sessions which assist a public official or public employee in the performance of the person's official functions" under this paragraph.

*s.* Gifts of food, beverage, and entertainment received by public officials or public employees at a function where every member of the general assembly has been invited to attend, when the function takes place during a regular session of the general assembly. A sponsor of a function under this paragraph shall file a report disclosing the total amount expended, including in-kind expenditures, on food, beverage, and entertainment for the function. The report shall be filed with the person or persons designated by the secretary of the senate and the chief clerk of the house within five business days following the date of the function. The person or persons designated by the secretary of the senate and the chief clerk of the house shall forward a copy of each report to the board.

5. For purposes of determining the value of an item given or received, an individual who gives an item on behalf of more than one person shall not divide the value of the item by the number of persons on whose behalf the item is given and the value of an item received shall be the value actually received by the donee.

6. A gift shall not be considered to be received by a public official or public employee if the state is the donee of the gift and the public official or public employee is required to receive the gift on behalf of the state as part of the performance of the person's duties of office or employment.

7. A person shall not request, and a member of the general assembly shall not agree, that a member of the general assembly sell tickets for a community-related social event that is to be held for members of the general assembly in Polk county during the legislative session. This section shall not apply to Polk county or city of Des Moines events that are open to the public generally or are held only for Polk county or city of Des Moines legislators.

8. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, an organization or association which has as one of its purposes the encouragement of the passage, defeat, introduction, or modification of legislation shall not give and a member of the general assembly shall not receive food, beverages, registration, or scheduled entertainment with a per person value in excess of three dollars.

92 Acts, ch 1228, §9; 93 Acts, ch 163, §6; 94 Acts, ch 1092, §5-7; 2001 Acts, ch 24, §19; 2003 Acts, ch 145, §286; 2003 Acts, ch 161, §1, 2; 2005 Acts, ch 76, §5; 2007 Acts, ch 5, §2; 2008 Acts, ch 1191, §40; 2009 Acts, ch 133, §18

#### **68B.24 Loans — receipt from lobbyists prohibited.**

1. An official, member of the general assembly, state employee, legislative employee, or candidate for state office shall not, directly or indirectly, seek or accept a loan or series of loans from a person who is a lobbyist.

2. A lobbyist shall not, directly or indirectly, offer or make a loan or series of loans to an official, member of the general assembly, state employee, legislative employee, or candidate for state office. A lobbyist shall also not, directly or indirectly, join with one or more persons to offer or make a loan or series of loans to an official, member of the general assembly, state employee, legislative employee, or candidate for state office.

3. This section shall not apply to loans made in the ordinary course of business. For purposes of this section, a loan is "*made in the ordinary course of business*" when it is made by a person who is regularly engaged in a business that makes loans to members of the general public and the finance charges and other terms of the loan are the same or substantially similar to the finance charges and loan terms that are available to members of the general public.

92 Acts, ch 1228, §11; 93 Acts, ch 163, §8

#### **68B.32 Independent ethics and campaign disclosure board — established.**

1. An Iowa ethics and campaign disclosure board is established as an independent agency. The board shall administer this chapter and set standards for, investigate complaints relating to, and monitor the ethics of officials, employees, lobbyists, and candidates for office in the executive branch of state government. The board shall administer and set standards for, investigate complaints relating to, and monitor the campaign finance practices of candidates for public office. The board shall administer and establish standards for, investigate complaints relating to, and monitor the reporting of gifts and bequests under section 8.7. The board shall consist of six members and shall be balanced as to political affiliation as provided in section 69.16. The members shall be appointed by the governor, subject to confirmation by the senate.

2. Members shall serve staggered six-year terms beginning and ending as provided in section 69.19. Any vacancy on the board shall be filled by appointment for the unexpired portion of the term, within ninety days of the

vacancy and in accordance with the procedures for regular appointments. A member of the board may be reappointed to serve additional terms on the board. Members may be removed in the manner provided in chapter 69.

3. The board shall annually elect one member to serve as the chairperson of the board and one member to serve as vice chairperson. The vice chairperson shall act as the chairperson in the absence or disability of the chairperson or in the event of a vacancy in that office.

4. Members of the board shall receive a per diem as specified in section 7E.6 while conducting business of the board, and payment of actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. Members of the board shall file statements of financial interest under section 68B.35.

5. The board shall employ a full-time executive director who shall be the board's chief administrative officer. The board shall employ or contract for the employment of legal counsel notwithstanding section 13.7, and any other personnel as may be necessary to carry out the duties of the board. The board's legal counsel shall be the chief legal officer of the board and shall advise the board on all legal matters relating to the administration of this chapter and chapter 68A. The state may be represented by the board's legal counsel in any civil action regarding the enforcement of this chapter or chapter 68A, or at the board's request, the state may be represented by the office of the attorney general. Notwithstanding section 8A.412, all of the board's employees, except for the executive director and legal counsel, shall be employed subject to the merit system provisions of chapter 8A, subchapter IV. The salary of the executive director shall be fixed by the board, within the range established by the general assembly. The salary of the legal counsel shall be fixed by the board, within a salary range established by the department of administrative services for a position requiring similar qualifications and experience.

92 Acts, ch 1228, §14; 93 Acts, ch 163, §14; 95 Acts, ch 198, §18; 2003 Acts, ch 145, §155, 286; 2006 Acts, ch 1035, §1; 2008 Acts, ch 1191, §41

#### **68B.32A Duties of the board.**

The duties of the board shall include but are not limited to all of the following:

1. Adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A and conduct hearings under sections 68B.32B and 68B.32C and chapter 17A, as necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter, chapter 68A, and section 8.7.

2. Develop, prescribe, furnish, and distribute any forms necessary for the implementation of the procedures contained in this chapter, chapter 68A, and section 8.7 for the filing of reports and statements by persons required to file the reports and statements under this chapter and chapter 68A.

3. Establish a process to assign signature codes to a person or committee for purposes of facilitating an electronic filing procedure. The assignment of signature codes shall be kept confidential, notwithstanding section 22.2. The board and persons electronically filing reports and statements shall keep assigned signature codes or subsequently selected signature codes confidential. Signature codes shall not be subject to state security policies regarding frequency of change.

4. Review the contents of all campaign finance disclosure reports and statements filed with the board and promptly advise each person or committee of errors found. The board may verify information contained in the reports with other parties to assure accurate disclosure. The board may also verify information by requesting that a candidate or committee produce copies of receipts, bills, logbooks, or other memoranda of reimbursements of expenses to a candidate for expenses incurred during a campaign. The board, upon its own motion, may initiate action and conduct a hearing relating to requirements under chapter 68A.

5. Receive and file registration and reports from lobbyists of the executive branch of state government, client disclosure from clients of lobbyists of the executive branch of state government, personal financial disclosure information from officials and employees in the executive branch of state government who are required to file personal financial disclosure information under this chapter, and gift and bequest disclosure information pursuant to section 8.7. The board, upon its own motion, may initiate action and conduct a hearing relating to reporting requirements under this chapter or section 8.7.

6. Prepare and publish a manual setting forth examples of approved uniform systems of accounts and approved methods of disclosure for use by persons required to file statements and reports under this chapter, chapter 68A, and section 8.7. The board shall also prepare and publish other educational materials, and any other reports or materials deemed appropriate by the board. The board shall annually provide all officials and state employees with notification of the contents of this chapter, chapter 68A, and section 8.7 by distributing copies of educational materials to each agency of state government under the board's jurisdiction.

7. Assure that the statements and reports which have been filed in accordance with this chapter, chapter 68A, and section 8.7 are available for public inspection and copying during the regular office hours of the office in which they are filed and not later than by the end of the day during which a report or statement was received. Rules adopted relating to public inspection and copying of statements and reports may include a charge for any copying and mailing of the reports and statements, shall provide for the mailing of copies upon the request of any person and upon prior receipt of payment of the costs by the board, and shall prohibit the use of the information copied from reports and statements for any commercial purpose by any person.

8. Require that the candidate of a candidate's committee, or the chairperson of a political committee, is responsible for filing disclosure reports under chapter 68A, and shall receive notice from the board if the committee has failed to file a disclosure report at the time required under chapter 68A. A candidate of a candidate's committee, or the chairperson of a political committee, may be subject to a civil penalty for failure to file a disclosure report required under section 68A.402, subsection 1.

9. Establish and impose penalties, and recommendations for punishment of persons who are subject to penalties of or punishment by the board or by other bodies, for the failure to comply with the requirements of this chapter, chapter 68A, or section 8.7.

10. Determine, in case of dispute, at what time a person has become a candidate.

11. Preserve copies of reports and statements filed with the board for a period of five years from the date of receipt.

12. Establish a procedure for requesting and issuing board advisory opinions to persons subject to the authority of the board under this chapter, chapter 68A, or section 8.7. Local officials and local employees may also seek an advisory opinion concerning the application of the applicable provisions of this chapter. Advice contained in board advisory opinions shall, if followed, constitute a defense to a complaint alleging a violation of this chapter, chapter 68A, section 8.7, or rules of the board that is based on the same facts and circumstances.

13. Establish rules relating to ethical conduct for officials and state employees, including candidates for statewide office, and regulations governing the conduct of lobbyists of the executive branch of state government, including but not limited to conflicts of interest, abuse of office, misuse of public property, use of confidential information, participation in matters in which an official or state employee has a financial interest, and rejection of improper offers.

14. Impose penalties upon, or refer matters relating to, persons who discharge any employee, or who otherwise discriminate in employment against any employee, for the filing of a complaint with, or the disclosure of information to, the board if the employee has filed the complaint or made the disclosure in good faith.

15. Establish fees, where necessary, to cover the costs associated with preparing, printing, and distributing materials to persons subject to the authority of the board.

16. Establish an expedited procedure for reviewing complaints forwarded by the state commissioner of elections to the board for a determination as to whether a supervisor district plan adopted pursuant to section 331.210A was drawn for improper political reasons as described in section 42.4, subsection 5. The expedited procedure shall be substantially similar to the process used for other complaints filed with the board except that the provisions of section 68B.32D shall not apply.

17. At the board's discretion, develop and operate a searchable internet site database that provides access to information on statements or reports filed with the board. For purposes of this subsection, "*searchable internet site database*" means an internet site database that allows the public to search and aggregate information and is in a downloadable format.

18. At the board's discretion, enter into an agreement with a political subdivision authorizing the board to enforce the provisions of a code of ethics adopted by that political subdivision.

93 Acts, ch 163, §15; 95 Acts, ch 198, §19; 2004 Acts, ch 1091, §10; 2005 Acts, ch 76, §6; 2006 Acts, ch 1035, §2-4, 9; 2006 Acts, ch 1185, §69; 2007 Acts, ch 5, §3; 2007 Acts, ch 126, §15; 2008 Acts, ch 1031, §85; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §106; 2008 Acts, ch 1184, §25; 2008 Acts, ch 1191, §42; 2009 Acts, ch 181, §41

**68B.32C Contested case proceedings.**

1. Contested case proceedings initiated as a result of the issuance of a statement of charges pursuant to section 68B.32B, subsection 9, shall be conducted in accordance with the requirements of chapter 17A. Clear and convincing evidence shall be required to support a finding that a person has violated this chapter, section 8.7, or any rules adopted by the board pursuant to this chapter. A preponderance of the evidence shall be required to support a finding that a person has violated chapter 68A or any rules adopted by the board pursuant to chapter 68A. The case in support of the statement of charges shall be presented at the hearing by one of the board's attorneys or staff unless, upon the request of the board, the charges are prosecuted by another legal counsel designated by the attorney general. A person making a complaint under section 68B.32B, subsection 1, is not a party to contested case proceedings conducted relating to allegations contained in the complaint.

2. Hearings held pursuant to this chapter shall be heard by a quorum of the board, unless the board designates a board member or an administrative law judge to preside at the hearing. If a quorum of the board does not preside at the hearing, the board member or administrative law judge shall make a proposed decision. The board or presiding board member may be assisted by an administrative law judge in the conduct of the hearing and the preparation of a decision.

3. Upon a finding by the board that the party charged has violated this chapter, chapter 68A, section 8.7, or rules adopted by the board, the board may impose any penalty provided for by section 68B.32D. Upon a final decision of the board finding that the party charged has not violated this chapter, chapter 68A, section 8.7, or the rules of the board, the complaint shall be dismissed and the party charged and the original complainant, if any, shall be notified.

4. The right of an appropriate county attorney or the attorney general to commence and maintain a district court prosecution for criminal violations of the law is unaffected by any proceedings under this section.

5. The board shall adopt rules, pursuant to chapter 17A, establishing procedures to implement this section.

93 Acts, ch 163, §17; 2006 Acts, ch 1035, §6; 2007 Acts, ch 126, §17

**68B.32D Penalties — recommended actions.**

1. The board, after a hearing and upon a finding that a violation of this chapter, chapter 68A, section 8.7, or rules adopted by the board has occurred, may do one or more of the following:

*a.* Issue an order requiring the violator to cease and desist from the violation found.

*b.* Issue an order requiring the violator to take any remedial action deemed appropriate by the board.

*c.* Issue an order requiring the violator to file any report, statement, or other information as required by this chapter, chapter 68A, section 8.7, or rules adopted by the board.

*d.* Publicly reprimand the violator for violations of this chapter, chapter 68A, section 8.7, or rules adopted by the board in writing and provide a copy of the reprimand to the violator's appointing authority.

*e.* Make a written recommendation to the violator's appointing authority that the violator be removed or suspended from office, and include in the recommendation the length of the suspension.

*f.* If the violation is a violation of this chapter or rules adopted by the board pursuant to this chapter and the violator is an elected official of the executive

branch of state government, other than an official who can only be removed by impeachment, make a written recommendation to the attorney general or the appropriate county attorney that an action for removal from office be initiated pursuant to chapter 66.

*g.* If the violation is a violation of this chapter or rules adopted by the board pursuant to this chapter and the violator is a lobbyist of the executive branch of state government, censure, reprimand, or impose other sanctions deemed appropriate by the board. A lobbyist may also be suspended from lobbying activities if the board finds that suspension is an appropriate sanction for the violation committed.

*h.* Issue an order requiring the violator to pay a civil penalty of not more than two thousand dollars for each violation of this chapter, chapter 68A, section 8.7, or rules adopted by the board.

*i.* Refer the complaint and supporting information to the attorney general or appropriate county attorney with a recommendation for prosecution or enforcement of criminal penalties.

2. At any stage during an investigation or during the board's review of routine compliance matters, the board may resolve the matter by admonishment to the alleged violator or by any other means not specified in subsection 1 as a posthearing remedy.

3. If a person fails to comply with an action of the board under subsection 1, the board may petition the Polk county district court for an order for enforcement of the action of the board. The enforcement proceeding shall be conducted as provided in section 68B.33.

93 Acts, ch 163, §18; 2000 Acts, ch 1042, §2; 2006 Acts, ch 1035, §7, 8

#### **68B.33 Judicial review — enforcement.**

Judicial review of the actions of the board may be sought in accordance with chapter 17A. Judicial enforcement of orders of the board may be sought in accordance with chapter 17A.

92 Acts, ch 1228, §15; 93 Acts, ch 163, §19

#### **68B.34 Additional penalty.**

In addition to any penalty contained in any other provision of law, a person who knowingly and intentionally violates a provision of sections 68B.2A through 68B.8, sections 68B.22 through 68B.24, or sections 68B.35 through 68B.38 is guilty of a serious misdemeanor and may be reprimanded, suspended, or dismissed from the person's position or otherwise sanctioned.

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §68B.8]

87 Acts, ch 213, §3; 92 Acts, ch 1228, §12

C93, §68B.25

93 Acts, ch 163, §9; 2008 Acts, ch 1116, §2

CS2009, §68B.34

#### **68B.35 Personal financial disclosure — certain officials, members of the general assembly, and candidates.**

1. The persons specified in subsection 2 shall file a financial statement at times and in the manner provided in this section that contains all of the following:

*a.* A list of each business, occupation, or profession in which the person is engaged and the nature of that business, occupation, or profession, unless already apparent.

*b.* A list of any other sources of income if the source produces more than one thousand dollars annually in gross income. Such sources of income listed pursuant to this paragraph may be listed under any of the following categories, or under any other categories as may be established by rule:

- (1) Securities.
- (2) Instruments of financial institutions.
- (3) Trusts.
- (4) Real estate.
- (5) Retirement systems.
- (6) Other income categories specified in state and federal income tax regulations.

2. The financial statement required by this section shall be filed by the following persons:

- a.* Any statewide elected official.
- b.* The executive or administrative head or heads of any agency of state government.
- c.* The deputy executive or administrative head or heads of an agency of state government.
- d.* The head of a major subunit of a department or independent state agency whose position involves a substantial exercise of administrative discretion or the expenditure of public funds as defined under rules adopted by the board, pursuant to chapter 17A, in consultation with the department or agency.
- e.* Members of the state banking council, the ethics and campaign disclosure board, the credit union review board, the economic development board, the employment appeal board, the environmental protection commission, the health facilities council, the Iowa finance authority, the Iowa public employees' retirement system investment board, the board of the Iowa lottery authority, the natural resource commission, the board of parole, the petroleum underground storage tank fund board, the public employment relations board, the state racing and gaming commission, the state board of regents, the tax review board, the transportation commission, the office of consumer advocate, the utilities board, the Iowa telecommunications and technology commission, and any full-time members of other boards and commissions as defined under section 7E.4 who receive an annual salary for their service on the board or commission. The Iowa ethics and campaign disclosure board shall conduct an annual review to determine if members of any other board, commission, or authority should file a statement and shall require the filing of a statement pursuant to rules adopted pursuant to chapter 17A.
- f.* Members of the general assembly.
- g.* Candidates for state office.
- h.* Legislative employees who are the head or deputy head of a legislative agency or whose position involves a substantial exercise of administrative discretion or the expenditure of public funds.

3. The board, in consultation with each executive department or independent agency, shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A to implement the requirements of this section that provide for the time and manner for the filing of financial statements by persons in the department or independent agency.

4. The ethics committee of each house of the general assembly shall recommend rules for adoption by each house for the time and manner for the filing of financial statements by members or employees of the particular house. The legislative council shall adopt rules for the time and manner for the filing of financial statements by legislative employees of the central legislative staff agencies. The rules shall provide for the filing of the financial statements with

either the chief clerk of the house, the secretary of the senate, or other appropriate person or body.

5. *a.* A candidate for statewide office shall file a financial statement with the ethics and campaign disclosure board, a candidate for the office of state representative shall file a financial statement with the chief clerk of the house of representatives, and a candidate for the office of state senator shall file a financial statement with the secretary of the senate. Statements shall contain information concerning the year preceding the year in which the election is to be held.

*b.* The ethics and campaign disclosure board shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A providing for the filing of the financial statements with the board and for the deposit, retention, and availability of the financial statements. The ethics committees of the house of representatives and the senate shall recommend rules for adoption by the respective houses providing for the filing of the financial statements with the chief clerk of the house or the secretary of the senate and for the deposit, retention, and availability of the financial statements. Rules adopted shall also include a procedure for notification of candidates of the duty to file disclosure statements under this section.

92 Acts, ch 1228, §17; 93 Acts, ch 163, §21; 94 Acts, ch 1092, §9; 96 Acts, ch 1200, §2; 2001 Acts, ch 61, §12; 2003 Acts, ch 178, §100, 121; 2003 Acts, ch 179, §142; 2004 Acts, ch 1091, §11; 2004 Acts, ch 1141, §34; 2009 Acts, ch 9, §5

#### **68B.37 Lobbyist reporting.**

1. A lobbyist before the general assembly shall file with the general assembly, on forms prescribed by each house of the general assembly, a report disclosing all of the following:

*a.* The lobbyist's clients before the general assembly.

*b.* Contributions made to candidates for state office by the lobbyist during calendar months during the reporting period when the general assembly is not in session.

*c.* The recipient of the campaign contributions.

*d.* Expenditures made by the lobbyist for the purposes of providing the services enumerated under section 68B.2, subsection 13, paragraph "a", before the general assembly. For purposes of this paragraph, "expenditures" does not include expenditures made by any organization for publishing a newsletter or other informational release for its members.

2. A lobbyist before a state agency or the office of the governor shall file with the board, on forms prescribed by the board, a report disclosing all of the following:

*a.* The lobbyist's clients before the executive branch.

*b.* Contributions made to candidates for state office by the lobbyist during calendar months during the reporting period when the general assembly is not in session.

*c.* The recipient of the campaign contributions.

*d.* Expenditures made by the lobbyist for the purposes of providing the services enumerated under section 68B.2, subsection 13, paragraph "a", before the executive branch. For purposes of this paragraph, "expenditures" does not include expenditures made by any organization for publishing a newsletter or other informational release for its members.

**69.3 Possession of office.**

When a vacancy occurs in a public office, possession shall be taken of the office room, books, papers, and all things pertaining to the office, to be held until the qualification of a successor, as follows:

1. Of the office of the county auditor, by the county treasurer.
2. Of the county treasurer, by the county auditor.
3. Of any of the state officers, by the governor, or, in the absence or inability of the governor at the time of the occurrence, as follows:
  - a. Of the secretary of state, by the treasurer of state.
  - b. Of the auditor of state, by the secretary of state.
  - c. Of the treasurer of state, by the secretary of state and auditor of state, who shall make an inventory of the money and warrants in the office, sign the inventory, and transmit it to the governor, and the secretary of state shall take the keys of the safe and desks, after depositing the books, papers, money and warrants in them, and the auditor of state shall take the key to the office room.

[C51, §444; R60, §671; C73, §788; C97, §1267; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §1147; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §69.3]

83 Acts, ch 186, §10034; 86 Acts, ch 1237, §3

**69.4 Resignations.**

Resignations in writing by civil officers may be made as follows, except as otherwise provided:

1. By the governor, to the general assembly, if in session, if not, to the secretary of state.
2. By state senators and representatives, and all officers appointed by the senate or house, or by the presiding officers thereof, to the respective presiding officers of the senate and house, when the general assembly is in session, and such presiding officers shall immediately transmit to the governor information of the resignation of any member thereof; when the general assembly is not in session, all such resignations shall be made to the governor.
3. By senators and representatives in Congress, all officers elected by the registered voters in the state or any district or division thereof larger than a county, or chosen by the general assembly, all judges of courts of record, all officers, trustees, inspectors, and members of all boards and commissions now or hereafter created under the laws of the state, and all persons filling any position of trust or profit in the state, for which no other provision is made, to the governor.

4. By all county and township officers, to the county auditor, except that of the auditor, which shall be to the board of supervisors.

5. By all council members and officers of cities, to the clerk or mayor.

[C51, §430; R60, §663; C73, §782; C97, §1268; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §1148; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §69.4]

2001 Acts, ch 56, §7

**69.5 Vacancy in general assembly.**

When a vacancy shall occur in the office of senator or representative in the general assembly, except by resignation, the auditor of the county of the senator's or representative's residence shall notify the governor of such fact and the cause.

[C51, §443; R60, §672; C73, §789, 790; C97, §1269; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §1149; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §69.5]

### **69.6 Vacancy in state boards.**

In case of a vacancy from any cause, other than resignation or expiration of term, occurring in any of the governing boards of the state institutions, the secretary thereof shall immediately notify the governor.

[C97, §1270; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §1150; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §69.6]

### **69.7 Duty of officer receiving resignation.**

An officer receiving any resignation, or notice of any vacancy, shall forthwith notify the board, tribunal, or officer, if any, empowered to fill the same by appointment.

[C97, §1271; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §1151; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §69.7]

### **69.8 Vacancies — how filled.**

Vacancies shall be filled by the officer or board named, and in the manner, and under the conditions, following:

1. *United States senator.* In the office of United States senator, when the vacancy occurs when the senate of the United States is in session, or when such senate will convene prior to the next general election, by the governor. An appointment made under this subsection shall be for the period until the vacancy is filled by election pursuant to law.

2. *State offices.* In all state offices, judges of courts of record, officers, trustees, inspectors, and members of all boards or commissions, and all persons filling any position of trust or profit in the state, by the governor, except when some other method is specially provided. An appointment by the governor to fill a vacancy in the office of lieutenant governor shall be for the balance of the unexpired term. An appointment made under this subsection to a state office subject to section 69.13 shall be for the period until the vacancy is filled by election pursuant to law.

3. *County offices.* In county offices, by the board of supervisors, unless an election is called as provided in section 69.14A.

4. *Board of supervisors.* In the membership of the board of supervisors, by the treasurer, auditor, and recorder, or as provided in section 69.14A. If any of these offices have been abolished through consolidation, the county attorney shall serve on this committee.

#### *5. Elected township offices.*

*a.* When a vacancy occurs in the office of township clerk or township trustee, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the trustees. All appointments to fill vacancies in township offices shall be until a successor is elected at the next general election and qualifies by taking the oath of office. If the term of office in which the vacancy exists will expire within seventy days after the next general election, the person elected to the office for the succeeding term shall qualify by taking the oath of office within ten days after the election and shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term, as well as for the next four-year term.

*b.* However, if the offices of two trustees are vacant the county board of supervisors shall fill the vacancies by appointment. If the offices of three trustees are vacant the board may fill the vacancies by appointment, or the board may adopt a resolution stating that the board will exercise all powers and duties assigned by law to the trustees of the township in which the vacancies exist until the vacancies are filled at the next general election. If a township office vacancy is not filled by the trustees within thirty days after the vacancy occurs, the board of supervisors may appoint a successor to fill the vacancy until the vacancy can be filled at the next general election.

[C51, §436; R60, §664; C73, §513, 783, 794; C97, §1272; S13, §1272; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §1152; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, S81, §69.8; 81 Acts, ch 117, §1204]

83 Acts, ch 186, §10035–10037; 86 Acts, ch 1155, §2; 87 Acts, ch 68, §4; 89 Acts, ch 215, §2, 3; 94 Acts, ch 1180, §37; 2008 Acts, ch 1032, §161; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §73

General power of governor, Iowa Constitution, Art. IV, §10

Vacancies in municipal offices, see §372.13(2)

### **69.9 Person removed not eligible.**

No person can be appointed to fill a vacancy who has been removed from office within one year next preceding.

[C51, §441; R60, §669; C73, §787; C97, §1273; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §1153; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §69.9]

### **69.10 Appointments.**

Appointments under the provisions of this chapter shall be in writing, and filed in the office where the oath of office is required to be filed.

[C51, §439; R60, §667; C73, §785; C97, §1274; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §1154; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §69.10]

### **69.11 Tenure of vacancy appointee.**

An officer filling a vacancy in an office which is filled by election of the people shall continue to hold until the next election at which such vacancy can be filled, as provided in section 69.12, and until a successor is elected and qualified. Appointments to all other offices, made under this chapter, shall continue for the remainder of the term of each office, and until a successor is appointed and qualified.

[C51, §429, 439; R60, §662, 667, 1101; C73, §530, 781, 785; C97, §1276; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §1155; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §69.11]

### **69.12 Officers elected to fill vacancies — tenure.**

When a vacancy occurs in any nonpartisan elective office of a political subdivision of this state, and the statutes governing the office in which the vacancy occurs require that it be filled by election or are silent as to the method of filling the vacancy, it shall be filled pursuant to this section. As used in this section, “*pending election*” means any election at which there will be on the ballot either the office in which the vacancy exists, or any other office to be filled or any public question to be decided by the voters of the same political subdivision in which the vacancy exists.

1. If the unexpired term in which the vacancy occurs has more than seventy days to run after the date of the next pending election, the vacancy shall be filled in accordance with this subsection. The fact that absentee ballots were distributed or voted before the vacancy occurred or was declared shall not invalidate the election.

*a.* A vacancy shall be filled at the next pending election if it occurs:

(1) Seventy-four or more days before the election, if it is a general election.

(2) Fifty-two or more days before the election, if it is a regularly scheduled or special city election. However, for those cities which may be required to hold a primary election, the vacancy shall be filled at the next pending election if it occurs seventy-three or more days before a regularly scheduled city election or fifty-nine or more days before a special city election.

(3) Forty-five or more days before the election, if it is a regularly scheduled school election.

(4) Sixty or more days before the election, if it is a special election.

b. Nomination papers on behalf of candidates for a vacant office to be filled pursuant to paragraph “a” of this subsection shall be filed, in the form and manner prescribed by applicable law, by 5:00 p.m. on:

(1) The final filing date for candidates filing with the state commissioner or commissioner, as the case may be, for a general election.

(2) The candidate filing deadline specified in section 376.4 for the regular city election or the filing deadline specified in section 372.13, subsection 2, for a special city election.

(3) The fortieth day before a regularly scheduled school election.

(4) The twenty-fifth day before a special election.

c. A vacancy which occurs at a time when paragraph “a” of this subsection does not permit it to be filled at the next pending election shall be filled by appointment as provided by law until the succeeding pending election.

2. When the unexpired term of office in which the vacancy occurs will expire within seventy days after the date of the next pending election, or after the date of a preceding election in which that office was on the ballot, the person elected to the office for the succeeding term shall also be deemed elected to fill the remainder of the unexpired term. If the vacancy is on a multimember body to which more than one nonincumbent is elected for the succeeding term, the nonincumbent who received the most votes shall be deemed elected to fill the remainder of the unexpired term. A person so elected to fill an unexpired term shall qualify within the time required by sections 63.3 and 63.8. Unless other requirements are imposed by law, qualification for the unexpired term shall also constitute qualification for the full term to which the person was elected.

[C51, §431–435; R60, §672, 1083, 1101; C73, §513, 530, 789, 794, 795; C97, §1277, 1278; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §1156, 1157; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, §69.12, 69.13; C73, 75, 77, 79, 81, S81, §69.12; 81 Acts, ch 34, §45]

87 Acts, ch 221, §31; 89 Acts, ch 136, §59–61; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §78, 79, 115; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §27, 28, 71

### **69.13 Vacancies — senator in Congress and elective state officers.**

If a vacancy occurs in the office of senator in the Congress of the United States, secretary of state, auditor of state, treasurer of state, secretary of agriculture, or attorney general eighty-nine or more days before a general election, and the unexpired term in which the vacancy exists has more than seventy days to run after the date of that general election, the vacancy shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term at that general election and the person elected to fill the vacancy shall assume office as soon as a certificate of election has been issued and the person has qualified.

If the unexpired term of office in which the vacancy occurs will expire within seventy days after the date of the next pending election, section 69.11 applies.

[C77, 79, 81, §69.13]

89 Acts, ch 136, §62; 91 Acts, ch 129, §21; 92 Acts, ch 1067, §1; 97 Acts, ch 170, §79

(2) If a vacancy in an elective county office occurs after the date of the primary election and more than seventy-three days before the general election, a special election to fill the vacancy shall not be called by the board of supervisors or by petition. If the term of office in which the vacancy exists will expire more than seventy days after the general election, the office shall be listed on the ballot with the name of the office and the additional description, "To Fill Vacancy". The person elected at the general election shall assume office as soon as a certificate of election is issued and the person has qualified by taking the oath of office. The person shall serve the balance of the unexpired term.

(3) If the term of office in which the vacancy exists will expire within seventy days after the general election, the person elected to the succeeding term shall also serve the balance of the unexpired term. The person elected at the general election shall assume office as soon as a certificate of election is issued and the person has qualified by taking the oath of office.

3. Notwithstanding subsection 2, in the event of a vacancy for which no eligible candidate residing in the county comes forward for appointment, a county board of supervisors may employ a person to perform the duties of the office for at least sixty days but no more than ninety days. After ninety days, the board shall proceed under subsection 2.

4. Notwithstanding subsections 1 and 2, if a nomination has been made at the primary election for an office in which a vacancy has been filled by appointment, the office shall be filled at the next general election, and not at any special election in the same political subdivision.

89 Acts, ch 215, §4; 90 Acts, ch 1238, §33; 92 Acts, ch 1067, §2; 94 Acts, ch 1180, §38–40; 97 Acts, ch 170, §80–83; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §80, 115; 2004 Acts, ch 1002, §1; 2006 Acts, ch 1065, §1, 2; 2008 Acts, ch 1032, §162

See §43.78, subsection 4

### **69.15 Board members — nonattendance — vacancy.**

1. Any person who has been appointed by the governor to any board under the laws of this state shall be deemed to have submitted a resignation from such office if either of the following events occurs:

*a.* The person does not attend three or more consecutive regular meetings of such board. This paragraph does not apply unless the first and last of the consecutive meetings counted for this purpose are at least thirty days apart.

*b.* The person attends less than one-half of the regular meetings of such board within any period of twelve calendar months beginning on July 1 or January 1. This paragraph does not apply unless such board holds at least four regular meetings during such period. This paragraph applies only to such a period beginning on or after the date when the person takes office as a member of such board.

2. If such person received no notice and had no knowledge of a regular meeting and gives the governor a sworn statement to that effect within ten days after the person learns of the meeting, such meeting shall not be counted for the purposes of this section.

3. The governor in the governor's discretion may accept or reject such resignation. If the governor accepts it, the governor shall notify such person, in writing, that the resignation is accepted pursuant to this section. The governor shall then make another appointment to such office. Such appointment shall be made in the same manner and for the same term as in the case of other vacancies caused by resignation from such office.

4. As used in this section, “*board*” includes any commission, committee, agency, or governmental body which has three or more members.

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §69.15]

2007 Acts, ch 22, §16

**69.16 Appointive boards — political affiliation.**

All appointive boards, commissions, and councils of the state established by the Code if not otherwise provided by law shall be bipartisan in their composition. No person shall be appointed or reappointed to any board, commission, or council established by the Code if the effect of that appointment or reappointment would cause the number of members of the board, commission, or council belonging to one political party to be greater than one-half the membership of the board, commission, or council plus one.

In the case where the appointment of members of the general assembly is allowed, and the law does not otherwise provide, if an even number of legislators are appointed they shall be equally divided by political party affiliation; if an odd number of members of the general assembly are appointed, the number representing a certain political party shall not exceed by more than one the legislative members of the other political party who may be appointed. If there are multiple appointing authorities for a board, commission or council, the appointing authorities shall consult to avoid a violation of this section. This section shall not apply to any board, commission, or council established by the Code for which other restrictions regarding the political affiliations of members are provided by law.

[C77, 79, 81, §69.16]

86 Acts, ch 1245, §2040; 87 Acts, ch 218, §7

**69.16A Gender balance.**

1. All appointive boards, commissions, committees and councils of the state established by the Code, if not otherwise provided by law shall be gender balanced. No person shall be appointed or reappointed to any board, commission, committee, or council established by the Code if that appointment or reappointment would cause the number of members of the board, commission, committee, or council of one gender to be greater than one-half the membership of the board, commission, committee, or council plus one if the board, commission, committee, or council is composed of an odd number of members. If the board, commission, committee, or council is composed of an even number of members, not more than one-half of the membership shall be of one gender. If there are multiple appointing authorities for a board, commission, committee, or council, they shall consult each other to avoid a violation of this section.

2. All appointive boards, commissions, committees, and councils of a political subdivision of the state that are established by the Code, if not otherwise provided by law, shall be gender balanced as provided by subsection 1 unless the political subdivision has made a good faith effort to appoint a qualified person to fill a vacancy on a board, commission, committee, or council in compliance with subsection 1 for a period of three months but has been unable to make a compliant appointment. In complying with the requirements of this subsection, political subdivisions shall utilize a fair and unbiased method of selecting the best qualified applicants. This subsection shall not prohibit an individual whose term expires prior to January 1, 2012, from being reappointed even though the reappointment continues an inequity in gender balance.

86 Acts, ch 1245, §2041; 87 Acts, ch 218, §8; 88 Acts, ch 1150, §1; 2009 Acts, ch 162, §1, 2

2009 amendments to this section apply on and after January 1, 2012; 2009 Acts, ch 162, §2

**69.16B Statutory boards, commissions, councils, and committees — appointments by members of general assembly — terms — dissolution.**

1. Unless otherwise specifically provided by law, all of the following shall apply to an appointment to a statutory board, commission, council, or committee made by a member or members of the general assembly pursuant to section 2.32A:

*a.* An appointment shall be at the pleasure of the appointing member.

*b.* Unless an appointee is replaced by the appointing member, the regular term of appointment shall be two years, beginning upon the convening of a general assembly and ending upon the convening of the following general assembly, or when the appointee's successor is appointed, whichever occurs later.

*c.* Unless otherwise provided, a vacancy exists if a member of the general assembly serving on a statutory board, commission, council, or committee ceases to be a member of the general assembly. A vacancy shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term in the same manner as the original appointment.

2. Unless otherwise specifically provided by law, a board, commission, council, committee, task force, or other temporary body created by an uncodified statute that provides for issuance of a final report by the body is dissolved on or about the date the body's final report is issued.

2008 Acts, ch 1156, §22, 58

**69.16C Minority representation.**

All appointive boards, commissions, committees, and councils of the state established by the Code if not otherwise provided by law should provide, to the extent practicable, for minority representation. All appointing authorities of boards, commission, committees, and councils subject to this section should consider qualified minority persons for appointment to boards, commissions, committees, and councils. For purposes of this section, "*minority*" means a minority person as defined in section 15.102.

2008 Acts, ch 1156, §23, 58

**69.17 Employees as members — voting.**

If an employee of an appointive board, commission, or council is a member of the board, commission, or council, that employee shall not be a voting member. Payment of per diem and expenses shall not cause a member to be considered an employee of that board, commission or council.

[C77, 79, 81, §69.17]

**69.18 Salary of acting appointees.**

If a vacancy occurs in a position which is appointed by the governor subject to confirmation by the senate and the governor designates a person to serve in that position in an acting capacity, that person shall not receive compensation in excess of that authorized by law for a person holding that position.

[C81, §69.18]

**69.19 Terms of appointments confirmed by the senate.**

All terms of office of positions which are appointed by the governor, have a fixed term and are subject to confirmation by the senate shall begin at 12:01 a.m. on May 1 in the year of appointment and expire at 12:00 midnight on April 30 in the year of expiration.

[C81, §69.19]

**69.20 Temporary vacancy due to military service.**

1. A temporary vacancy in an elective office of a political subdivision, community college, or hospital board of trustees of this state occurs on the date when the person filling that office is placed on state military service or federal service, as those terms are defined in section 29A.1, and when such a person will not be able to attend to the duties of that person's elective position for a period greater than sixty consecutive days. The temporary vacancy terminates on the date when such person is released from such service, or the term of office expires.

2. A temporary vacancy on an elective board, council, or other multimember body of a political subdivision may be filled by appointment by a majority of the remaining members of the body. A temporary vacancy in any other elective office in a political subdivision, community college, or hospital board of trustees may be filled by the governing body of that political subdivision, community college, or hospital board of trustees.

3. Upon the termination of a temporary vacancy due to a person's release from state military service or federal service, the person who held the elective office just prior to the temporary vacancy shall immediately be deemed to have been reinstated to that position and the person who filled the temporary vacancy shall immediately be deemed to have been removed from that office.

4. A person filling a temporary vacancy or a person reinstated to office as described in this section shall qualify for that office as provided in chapter 63.

5. Upon the resignation or death of the person replaced under this section, a permanent vacancy occurs and shall be filled as otherwise provided by law.

2004 Acts, ch 1076, §1, 2; 2006 Acts, ch 1010, §42, 169, 177

MISCELLANEOUS SECTIONS

AUTHORIZATION AND SALE OF PUBLIC BONDS

**75.1 Bonds — election — vote required.**

1. *a.* When a proposition to authorize an issuance of bonds by a county, township, school corporation, city, or by any local board or commission, is submitted to the electors, such proposition shall not be deemed carried or adopted, anything in the statutes to the contrary notwithstanding, unless the vote in favor of such authorization is equal to at least sixty percent of the total vote cast for and against said proposition at said election.

*b.* Ballots cast but not counted as a vote for or against the proposition shall not be used in computing the total vote cast for and against said proposition.

2. When a proposition to authorize an issuance of bonds has been submitted to the electors under this section and the proposal fails to gain approval by the required percentage of votes, such proposal, or any proposal which incorporates any portion of the defeated proposal, shall not be submitted to the electors for a period of six months from the date of such regular or special election and may only be submitted on a date specified in section 39.2, subsection 4, paragraph “*a*”, “*b*”, or “*c*”, as applicable.

[C31, 35, §1171-d4; C39, §1171.18; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §75.1]  
2008 Acts, ch 1115, §29, 71; 2009 Acts, ch 133, §20

BLANK

*b.* If licenses to conduct gambling games and to operate an excursion gambling boat are in effect pursuant to a referendum as set forth in this section and are subsequently disapproved by a referendum of the county electorate, the licenses issued by the commission after a referendum approving gambling games on excursion gambling boats shall remain valid and are subject to renewal for a total of nine years from the date of original issue unless the commission revokes a license at an earlier date as provided in this chapter.

*c.* If a licensee of a pari-mutuel racetrack who held a valid license issued under chapter 99D as of January 1, 1994, requests a license to operate gambling games as provided in this chapter, the board of supervisors of a county in which the licensee of a pari-mutuel racetrack requests a license to operate gambling games shall submit to the county electorate a proposition to approve or disapprove the operation of gambling games at pari-mutuel racetracks at an election held on a date specified in section 39.2, subsection 4, paragraph “a”. If the operation of gambling games at the pari-mutuel racetrack is not approved by a majority of the county electorate voting on the proposition at the election, the commission shall not issue a license to operate gambling games at the racetrack.

*d.* If the proposition to operate gambling games on an excursion gambling boat or at a racetrack enclosure is approved by a majority of the county electorate voting on the proposition, the board of supervisors shall submit the same proposition to the county electorate at the general election held in 2002 and, unless the operation of gambling games is terminated earlier as provided in this chapter or chapter 99D, at the general election held at each subsequent eight-year interval.

*e.* After a referendum has been held which defeated a proposal to conduct gambling games on excursion gambling boats or which defeated a proposal to conduct gambling games at a licensed pari-mutuel racetrack enclosure as provided in this section, another referendum on a proposal to conduct gambling games on an excursion gambling boat or at a licensed pari-mutuel racetrack shall not be held for at least eight years.

12. to 17. Not reprinted.

89 Acts, ch 67, §7; 89 Acts, ch 139, §2–5; 92 Acts, ch 1203, §15, 16; 93 Acts, ch 143, §42; 94 Acts, ch 1021, §16–18; 95 Acts, ch 49, §2; 95 Acts, ch 176, §4, 5; 2004 Acts, ch 1136, §41–47, 65; 2004 Acts, ch 1175, §328; 2007 Acts, ch 188, §11, 12; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §30, 71

IOWA PROPANE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH COUNCIL

**101C.2 Definitions.**

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

1. *“Council”* means the Iowa propane education and research council established pursuant to section 101C.3.
2. to 13. Not reprinted.  
2007 Acts, ch 182, §2, 15; 2009 Acts, ch 141, §1, 2

**101C.7 Lobbying restrictions.**

Moneys collected by the council shall not be used in any manner for influencing legislation or elections, except that the council may recommend changes in this chapter or other statutes that would further the purposes of this chapter to the general assembly.

2007 Acts, ch 182, §7, 15

## AREA HOSPITALS

**145A.2 Definitions.**

As used in this chapter, unless the context indicates otherwise:

1. “*Area hospital*” means a hospital established and operated by a merged area.
  2. “*Board*” means the board of trustees of an area hospital.
  3. “*Merged area*” means a public corporation formed by the residents of two or more contiguous or noncontiguous political subdivisions which have merged resources to establish and operate an area hospital.
  4. “*Officials*” means the respective governing bodies of political subdivisions.
  5. “*Political subdivision*” means any county, township, school district or city.
- [C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §145A.2]  
85 Acts, ch 123, §1, 2

**145A.6 Petition of protest.**

The plans formulated for the area hospital shall be deemed approved unless, within sixty days after the third and final publication of the order, a petition protesting the proposed plan containing the signatures of at least five percent of the registered voters of any political subdivision within the proposed merged area is filed with the respective officials of the protesting petitioners.

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §145A.6]  
2001 Acts, ch 56, §8

**145A.7 Special election.**

When a protesting petition is received, the officials receiving the petition shall call a special election of all registered voters of that political subdivision upon the question of approving or rejecting the order setting out the proposed merger plan. The election shall be held on a date specified in section 39.2, subsection 4, paragraph “*a*” or “*b*”, as applicable. The vote will be taken by ballot in the form provided by sections 49.43 to 49.47, and the election shall be initiated and held as provided in chapter 49. A majority vote of those registered voters voting at the special election shall be sufficient to approve the order and thus include the political subdivision within the merged area.

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §145A.7]  
2001 Acts, ch 56, §9; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §31, 71

**145A.8 Effect on other subdivisions.**

A protest petition filed in one political subdivision shall have no effect upon the other political subdivisions of the proposed merged area; and in the portion of the proposed area where no protest petition is filed within sixty days after the last published notice, the residents of that portion of the area shall be deemed to have approved the proposed plan, and shall not take part in any special election.

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §145A.8]

**145A.9 Continuance or abandonment.**

If the voters at the special election approve by a majority vote the proposed plan, then the plan may be carried out as originally proposed. However, if the voters of any political subdivision within the proposed area reject the plan as set out in the original order, then said original order shall be wholly nullified.

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §145A.9]

**145A.10 Board of hospital trustees.**

Upon acceptance of a plan, the officials of the merged area acting as a committee of the whole shall appoint a board of hospital trustees. The board of trustees shall then meet, elect a chairperson and adopt such rules for the organization of the board as may be necessary. The number and composition of the board shall be determined by the committee appointing the board; but as a matter of public policy the committee is directed to apportion the board into area districts in such a way that the residents of all of the merged area will be represented as nearly equally as possible on the board.

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §145A.10]

**145A.11 Terms of members.**

The terms of members of the board shall be four years, except that members of the initial board shall determine their respective terms by lot so that the terms of one-half of the members, as nearly as may be, shall expire at the next general election. The remaining initial terms shall expire at the following general election. The successors of the initial board shall be chosen from area districts at regular elections, and shall be nominated and elected in the same manner as county hospital trustees as provided in section 347.25, except that nomination papers on behalf of a candidate shall be signed by not less than twenty-five eligible electors from the area district.

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §145A.11]

**145A.12 Operation and management.**

The board shall govern the operation and management of the area hospital and may do all things necessary to establish and operate the hospital. The board has all the general powers, duties, and responsibilities of the trustees of county public hospitals as set out in sections 347.13 and 347.14 and may enter into contracts for the operation and management of area hospital facilities.

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §145A.12]

85 Acts, ch 123, §5

**145A.17 Indebtedness and bonds.**

Boards of hospital trustees may by resolution acquire sites and buildings by purchase, lease, construction, or otherwise, for use by area hospitals and may by resolution contract indebtedness on behalf of the merged area and issue bonds bearing interest at a rate not exceeding the rate of interest permitted by chapter 74A, to raise funds in accordance with chapter 75 for the purpose of acquiring the sites and buildings.

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §145A.17]

85 Acts, ch 123, §8

**145A.18 Taxes.**

Taxes for the payment of bonds issued under section 145A.17 shall be levied in accordance with chapter 76 and in the same proportion as provided in section 145A.14. Any indebtedness incurred shall not be considered an indebtedness incurred for general and ordinary purposes.

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §145A.18]

85 Acts, ch 123, §9

**145A.19 Special tax.**

In addition to the tax authorized in connection with the annual budget and with the issuance of bonds, the voters in any merged area may at any regular election vote a special tax for a period not to exceed five years for the purchase of grounds, purchase or construction of buildings, purchase of equipment, and for the purpose of maintaining, remodeling, improving, or expanding the hospital area. Such a tax shall not exceed one-fourth of the maximum levy of each political subdivision as set out in the published order of merger, but the total tax levy for annual budget, bonds, and special purposes shall not exceed the maximum levy as proposed in the published order of merger.

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §145A.19]

**145A.21 Amendment of plan of merger — procedures — qualifications.**

A plan of merger once approved may be amended. An amendment shall be formulated and approved in the same manner and subject to the same limitations as provided in sections 145A.3 through 145A.9 for the formulation and approval of an original plan of merger. However, an amendment to a plan of merger shall not in any way impair the obligation of or source of payment for bonds or other indebtedness duly contracted prior to the effective date of the amendment to the plan of merger.

85 Acts, ch 123, §11

**145A.22 Actions subject to contest of elections — filing actions — limitation.**

A special election called to approve or reject an original plan of merger or an amendment to an approved plan of merger is subject to the provisions for contest of elections for public measures set forth in chapter 57. Except as provided with respect to election contests, after one hundred twenty days following the third and final publication of the order of approval of the plan or amendment to the plan of merger, an action shall not be filed to contest the regularity of the proceedings with respect to a plan of merger or amendment to a plan of merger. After one hundred twenty days the organization of the merged area is conclusively presumed to have been lawful.

85 Acts, ch 123, §12

## SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION

## SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

**161A.5 Soil and water conservation districts.**

1. The one hundred soil and water conservation districts\* established in the manner which was prescribed by law prior to July 1, 1975 shall continue in existence with the boundaries and the names\* in effect on July 1, 1975. If the existence of a district so established is discontinued pursuant to section 161A.10, a petition for re-establishment of the district or for annexation of the former district's territory to any other abutting district may be submitted to, and shall be acted upon by, the state soil conservation committee in substantially the manner provided by section 467A.5, Code 1975.

2. The governing body of each district shall consist of five commissioners elected on a nonpartisan basis for staggered four-year terms commencing on the first day of January that is not a Sunday or holiday following their election. Any eligible elector residing in the district is eligible to the office of commissioner, except that no more than one commissioner shall at any one time be a resident of any one township. A vacancy is created in the office of any commissioner who changes residence into a township where another commissioner then resides. If a commissioner is absent for sixty or more percent of monthly meetings during any twelve-month period, the other commissioners by their unanimous vote may declare the member's office vacant. A vacancy in the office of commissioner shall be filled by appointment of the state soil conservation committee until the next succeeding general election, at which time the balance of the unexpired term shall be filled as provided by section 69.12.

3. At each general election a successor shall be chosen for each commissioner whose term will expire in the succeeding January.

a. Nomination of candidates for the office of commissioner shall be made by petition in accordance with chapter 45, except that each candidate's nominating petition shall be signed by at least twenty-five eligible electors of the district. The petition form shall be furnished by the county commissioner of elections.

b. Every candidate shall file with the nomination papers an affidavit stating the candidate's name, the candidate's residence, that the person is a candidate and is eligible for the office of commissioner, and that if elected the candidate will qualify for the office. The affidavit shall also state that the candidate is aware that the candidate is disqualified from holding office if the candidate has been convicted of a felony or other infamous crime and the candidate's rights have not been restored by the governor or by the president of the United States.

c. The signed petitions shall be filed with the county commissioner of elections not later than five p.m. on the sixty-ninth day before the general election.

d. The votes for the office of district commissioner shall be canvassed in the same manner as the votes for county officers, and the returns shall be certified to the commissioners of the district. A plurality is sufficient to elect commissioners, and a primary election for the office shall not be held.

e. If the canvass shows that the two candidates receiving the highest and the second highest number of votes for the office of district commissioner are both residents of the same township, the board shall certify as elected the candidate who received the highest number of votes for the office and the candidate receiving the next highest number of votes for the office who is not a resident of the same township as the candidate receiving the highest number of votes.

[C39, §2603.06; C46, §160.5; C50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §467A.5]

87 Acts, ch 23, §18; 89 Acts, ch 136, §73; 90 Acts, ch 1238, §41

C93, §161A.5

94 Acts, ch 1180, §41; 96 Acts, ch 1083, §1; 98 Acts, ch 1052, §5; 2009 Acts, ch 41, §201

\*Established as "soil conservation districts"

### **161A.6 Commissioners — general provisions.**

The commissioners of each soil and water conservation district shall convene on the first day of January that is not a Sunday or holiday in each odd-numbered year. Those commissioners whose term of office begins on that day shall take the oath of office prescribed by section 63.10. The commissioners shall then organize by election of a chairperson and a vice chairperson.

The commissioners of the respective districts shall submit to the department such statements, estimates, budgets, and other information at such times and in such manner as the department may require.

A commissioner shall not receive compensation for the commissioner's services. However, to the extent funds are available, a commissioner is entitled to receive actual expenses necessarily incurred in the discharge of the commissioner's duties, including reimbursement for mileage at the rate provided under section 70A.9 for state business use.

The commissioners may call upon the attorney general of the state for such legal services as they may require. The commissioners may delegate to their chairperson, to one or more commissioners or to one or more agents, or employees, such powers and duties as they may deem proper. The commissioners shall furnish to the division of soil conservation, upon request, copies of such ordinances, rules, regulations, orders, contracts, forms, and other documents as they shall adopt or employ, and such other information concerning their activities as it may require in the performance of its duties under this chapter.

The commissioners shall provide for the execution of surety bonds for all employees and officers who shall be entrusted with funds or property; shall provide for the keeping of a full and accurate record of all proceedings and of all resolutions, regulations, and orders issued or adopted; and shall regularly report to the division a summary of financial information regarding moneys controlled by the commissioners, which are not audited by the state, according to rules adopted by the division.

The commissioners may invite the legislative body of any municipality or county located near the territory comprised within the district to designate a representative to advise and consult with the commissioners of the district on all questions of program and policy which may affect the property, water supply, or other interests of such municipality or county.

[C39, §2603.08; C46, §160.6; C50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §467A.6]

87 Acts, ch 23, §19

C93, §161A.6

93 Acts, ch 176, §33; 96 Acts, ch 1083, §2

### **161A.10 Discontinuance of districts.**

At any time after five years after the organization of a district under this chapter, any twenty-five owners of land lying within the boundaries of the district, but in no case less than twenty percent of the owners of land lying within the district, may file a petition with the committee asking that the operations of the district be terminated and the existence of the district discontinued. The committee may conduct public meetings and public hearings upon the petition as necessary to assist in the consideration of the petition. Within sixty days after a petition has been received by the committee, the division shall give due notice of the holding of a referendum, shall supervise the

referendum, and shall issue appropriate rules governing the conduct of the referendum. The question is to be submitted by ballots upon which the words “For terminating the existence of the ..... (name of the soil and water conservation district to be here inserted)” and “Against terminating the existence of the ..... (name of the soil and water conservation district to be here inserted)” shall be printed, with a square before each proposition and a direction to insert an X mark in the square before one or the other of the propositions as the voter favors or opposes discontinuance of the district. All owners of lands lying within the boundaries of the district are eligible to vote in the referendum. No informalities in the conduct of the referendum or in any matters relating to the referendum invalidate the referendum or the result of the referendum if notice was given substantially as provided in this section and if the referendum was fairly conducted.

When sixty-five percent of the landowners vote to terminate the existence of the district, the committee shall advise the commissioners to terminate the affairs of the district. The commissioners shall dispose of all property belonging to the district at public auction and shall pay over the proceeds of the sale to be deposited into the state treasury. The commissioners shall then file an application, duly verified, with the secretary of state for the discontinuance of the district, and shall transmit with the application the certificate of the committee setting forth the determination of the committee that the continued operation of the district is not administratively practicable and feasible. The application shall recite that the property of the district has been disposed of and the proceeds paid over as provided in this section, and shall set forth a full accounting of the properties and proceeds of the sale. The secretary of state shall issue to the commissioners a certificate of dissolution and shall record the certificate in an appropriate book of record in the secretary of state’s office.

Upon issuance of a certificate of dissolution under this section, all ordinances and regulations previously adopted and in force within the districts are of no further force and effect. All contracts previously entered into, to which the district or commissioners are parties, remain in force and effect for the period provided in the contracts. The committee is substituted for the district or commissioners as party to the contracts. The committee is entitled to all benefits and subject to all liabilities under the contracts and has the same right and liability to perform, to require performance, to sue and be sued, and to modify or terminate the contracts by mutual consent or otherwise, as the commissioners of the district would have had.

The committee shall not entertain petitions for the discontinuance of any district nor conduct referenda upon discontinuance petitions nor make determinations pursuant to the petitions in accordance with this chapter, more often than once in five years.

[C39, §2603.12; C46, §160.10; C50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §467A.10]  
86 Acts, ch 1245, §652; 87 Acts, ch 23, §21; 89 Acts, ch 106, §3  
C93, §161A.10

SOIL CONSERVATION AND FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICTS

**161F.6 Chapters made applicable — definitions.**

1. In the organization, operation, and financing of districts established under this chapter, the provisions of chapter 468 shall apply and any procedure provided under chapter 468 in connection with the organization, financing, and operation of any drainage district shall apply to the organization, financing, and operation of districts organized under this chapter.

2. As used in this chapter or chapter 468:

*a. "Drainage"* shall be deemed to include in its meaning soil erosion and flood control or any combination of drainage, flood control, and soil erosion control.

*b. "Drainage certificates" or "drainage bonds"* shall be deemed to include certificates or bonds issued in behalf of any district organized under the provisions of this chapter.

*c. "Drainage district"* shall be considered to include districts having as their purpose soil conservancy or flood control or any combination thereof.

[C50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §467C.6]

C95, §161F.6

2009 Acts, ch 133, §69

## COUNTY AND DISTRICT FAIRS

**174.1 Terms defined.**

For the purposes of this chapter:

1. Not reprinted.

2. “*Fair*” means an organization which is incorporated under the laws of this state, including as a county or district fair or as an agricultural society, for the purpose of conducting a fair event, if all of the following apply:

*a.* The organization owns or leases at least ten acres of fairgrounds. An organization may meet the requirement of owning or leasing land, buildings, and improvements through ownership by a joint entity under chapter 28E.

*b.* The organization owns buildings and other improvements situated on the fairgrounds which have been specially constructed for purposes of conducting a fair event.

*c.* The market value of the fairgrounds and buildings and other improvements located on the fairgrounds is at least eighty thousand dollars.

3. to 6. Not reprinted.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §2894; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §174.1]

97 Acts, ch 215, §32; 2004 Acts, ch 1019, §6–8; 2004 Acts, ch 1175, §366

**174.17 Issuance of revenue bonds — standby tax levy.**

1. The governing body of a fair may issue bonds payable from revenue generated by the operations of the fair event and the use or rental of the real and personal property owned or leased by the fair. The governing body of a fair shall comply with all of the following procedures in issuing such bonds:

*a.* A fair may institute proceedings for the issuance of bonds by causing a notice of the proposal to issue the bonds to be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation within the county at least ten days prior to the meeting at which the fair proposes to take action for the issuance of the bonds. The notice shall include a statement of the amount and purpose of the bonds, the maximum rate of interest the bonds are to bear, and the right to petition for an election.

*b.* If at any time before the date fixed for taking action for the issuance of the bonds, a petition signed by three percent of the registered voters of the county is filed with the board of supervisors, asking that the question of issuing the bonds be submitted to the registered voters, the board of supervisors shall either by resolution declare the proposal to issue the bonds to have been abandoned or shall direct the county commissioner of elections to call a special election upon the question of issuing the bonds. The proposition of issuing bonds under this subsection is not approved unless the vote in favor of the proposition is equal to at least sixty percent of the vote cast. If a petition is not filed, or if a petition is filed and the proposition of issuing the bonds is approved at an election, the board of supervisors acting on behalf of the fair may proceed with the authorization and issuance of the bonds. Bonds may be issued for the purpose of refunding outstanding and previously issued bonds under this subsection without otherwise complying with the provisions of this subsection.

*c.* All bonds issued under this subsection shall be payable solely from and shall be secured by an irrevocable pledge of a sufficient portion of the net rents, profits, and income derived from the operation of the fair event and the use or rental of the real and personal property owned or leased by the fair. Bonds issued pursuant to this section shall not constitute an indebtedness within the meaning of any constitutional or statutory debt limitation or restriction, and shall not be subject to the provisions of any other law or charter relating to the authorization, issuance, or sale of bonds. Bonds issued under this subsection shall not limit or restrict the authority of the fair as otherwise provided by law.

2. To further secure the payment of the bonds, the board of supervisors may, by resolution, provide for the assessment of an annual levy of a standby tax upon all taxable property within the county. A copy of the resolution shall be sent to the county auditor. The revenues from the standby tax shall be deposited in a special fund and shall be expended only for the payment of principal of and interest on the bonds issued as provided in this section, when the receipt of revenues pursuant to subsection 1 is insufficient to pay the principal and interest. If payments are necessary and made from the special fund, the amount of the payments shall be promptly repaid into the special fund from the first available revenues received which are not required for the payment of principal of or interest on bonds due. Reserves shall not be built up in the special fund in anticipation of a projected default. The board of supervisors shall adjust the annual standby tax levy for each year to reflect the amount of revenues in the special fund and the amount of principal and interest which is due in that year.

3. In order for the governing body of a fair to issue bonds under this section, the governing body must conduct a fair event that has a verifiable annual attendance of at least one hundred fifty thousand persons and annual outside gate admission revenues of at least four hundred thousand dollars.

99 Acts, ch 204, §34; 2004 Acts, ch 1019, §21, 22

BLANK

## COUNTY AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION

**176A.4 Establishment — body corporate — county agricultural extension districts.**

Each county, except Pottawattamie, is constituted and established as a “*county agricultural extension district*” and shall be a public body corporate organized in accordance with the provisions of this chapter for the purposes, with the powers and subject to the restrictions hereinafter set forth. Pottawattamie county shall be divided into and constitute two districts with one district to be known as “East Pottawattamie” which shall include the following townships: Pleasant, Layton, Knox, James, Valley, Lincoln, Washington, Belknap, Center, Wright, Carson, Macedonia, Grove, Waveland; and the other “West Pottawattamie” which shall include the following townships: Rockford, Boomer, Neola, Minden, Hazel Dell, York, Crescent, Norwalk, Lake, Garner, Hardin, Kane, Lewis, Keg Creek, Silver Creek.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §2930; C46, 50, 54, §176.8; C58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §176A.4]

**176A.5 County agricultural extension council.**

There shall be elected in each extension district an extension council consisting of nine members. Each member of the extension council shall be a resident registered voter of the extension district.

[C58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §176A.5]

90 Acts, ch 1149, §1; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

**176A.6 Elections.**

An election shall be held biennially at the time of the general election in each extension district for the election of members of the extension council. All registered voters of the extension district are entitled to vote in the election.

[C58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §176A.6]

90 Acts, ch 1149, §2; 95 Acts, ch 67, §53

**176A.7 Terms — meetings.**

1. Except as otherwise provided pursuant to law for members elected in 1990, the term of office of an extension council member is four years. The term shall commence on the first day of January following the date of the member’s election which is not a Sunday or legal holiday.

2. Not reprinted.

[C58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §176A.7]

90 Acts, ch 1149, §3; 99 Acts, ch 133, §1

**176A.8 Powers and duties of county agricultural extension council.**

The extension councils of each extension district of the state shall have, exercise, and perform the following powers and duties:

1. and 2. Not reprinted.

3. *a.* To and shall, at least ninety days prior to the date fixed for the election of council members, appoint a nominating committee consisting of four persons who are not council members and designate the chairperson. The membership of the nominating committee shall be gender balanced. The nominating committee shall consider the geographic distribution of potential nominees in nominating one or more resident registered voters of the extension district as candidates for election to each office to be filled at the election. To qualify for

the election ballot, each nominee shall file a nominating petition signed by at least twenty-five eligible electors of the district with the county commissioner of elections at least sixty-nine days before the date of election.

*b.* To and shall also provide for the nomination by petition of candidates for election to membership on the extension council. A nominating petition shall be signed by at least twenty-five eligible electors of the extension district and shall be filed with the county commissioner of elections at least sixty-nine days before the date of the election.

4. to 8. Not reprinted.

9. To fill all vacancies in its membership to serve for the unexpired term of the member creating the vacancy by appointing a resident registered voter of the extension district. However, if an unexpired term in which the vacancy occurs has more than seventy days to run after the date of the next pending election and the vacancy occurs seventy-four or more days before the election, the vacancy shall be filled at the next pending election.

10. To and shall, as soon as possible following the meeting at which the officers are elected, file in the office of the board of supervisors and of the county treasurer a certificate signed by its chairperson and secretary certifying the names, addresses and terms of office of each member, and the names and addresses of the officers of the extension council with the signatures of the officers affixed thereto, and said certificate shall be conclusive as to the organization of the extension district, its extension council, and as to its members and its officers.

11. to 14. Not reprinted.

[S13, §1683-j, -m; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §2930, 2933, 2938; C46, 50, 54, §176.8, 176.11, 176.16; C58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §176A.8]

83 Acts, ch 123, §77, 209; 87 Acts, ch 43, §5; 90 Acts, ch 1149, §4–6; 91 Acts, ch 129, §22; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §64; 99 Acts, ch 133, §2, 3; 2001 Acts, ch 56, §10; 2009 Acts, ch 41, §70

#### **176A.10 County agricultural extension education tax.**

1. The extension council of each extension district shall, at a meeting held before March 15, estimate the amount of money required to be raised by taxation for financing the county agricultural extension education program authorized in this chapter. The annual tax levy and the amount of money to be raised from the levy for the county agricultural extension education fund shall not exceed the following:

*a.* (1) Except as provided in subparagraph (2), for an extension district having a population of less than thirty thousand, an annual levy of twenty and one-fourth cents per thousand dollars of the assessed valuation of the taxable property in the district up to a maximum of seventy thousand dollars for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1985, and seventy-five thousand dollars for each subsequent fiscal year.

(2) For an extension district having a population of less than thirty thousand and as provided in subsection 6, an annual levy of thirty cents per thousand dollars of the assessed valuation of the taxable property in the district up to a maximum of eighty-seven thousand dollars payable during the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1992, and an increase of six thousand dollars in the amount payable during each subsequent fiscal year.

*b.* (1) Except as provided in subparagraph (2), for an extension district having a population of thirty thousand or more but less than fifty thousand, an annual levy of twenty and one-fourth cents per thousand dollars of the assessed valuation of the taxable property in the district up to a maximum of eighty-four thousand dollars for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1985, and ninety thousand dollars for each subsequent fiscal year.

(2) For an extension district having a population of thirty thousand or more but less than fifty thousand and as provided in subsection 2, an annual levy of twenty and one-fourth cents per thousand dollars of the assessed valuation of the taxable property in the district up to a maximum of one hundred four thousand dollars payable during the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1992, and an increase of seven thousand dollars in the amount payable during each subsequent fiscal year.

*c.* (1) Except as provided in subparagraph (2), for an extension district having a population of fifty thousand or more but less than ninety-five thousand, an annual levy of thirteen and one-half cents per thousand dollars of the assessed valuation of the taxable property in the district up to a maximum of one hundred five thousand dollars for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1985, and one hundred twelve thousand five hundred dollars for each subsequent fiscal year.

(2) For an extension district having a population of fifty thousand or more but less than ninety thousand and as provided in subsection 2, an annual levy of thirteen and one-half cents per thousand dollars of the assessed valuation of the taxable property in the district up to a maximum of one hundred thirty thousand five hundred dollars payable during the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1992, and an increase of nine thousand dollars in the amount payable during each subsequent fiscal year.

*d.* (1) Except as provided in subparagraph (2), for an extension district having a population of ninety-five thousand or more, an annual levy of thirteen and one-half cents per thousand dollars of the assessed valuation of the taxable property in the district up to a maximum of one hundred forty thousand dollars for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1985, and one hundred fifty thousand dollars for each subsequent fiscal year.

(2) For an extension district having a population of ninety thousand or more but less than two hundred thousand and as provided in subsection 2, an annual levy of thirteen and one-half cents per thousand dollars of the assessed valuation of the taxable property in the district up to a maximum of one hundred eighty thousand dollars payable during the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1992, and an increase of fifteen thousand dollars in the amount payable during each subsequent fiscal year.

*e.* For an extension district having a population of two hundred thousand or more and as provided in subsection 2, an annual levy of five cents per thousand dollars of the assessed valuation of the taxable property in the district up to a maximum of two hundred thousand dollars payable during the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1992, and an increase of twenty-five thousand dollars in the amount payable during each subsequent fiscal year.

2. An extension council of an extension district may choose to be subject to the levy and revenue limits specified in subparagraphs (2) of subsection 1, paragraphs “a” through “d”, and subsection 1, paragraph “e”, for the purpose of the annual levy for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1991, which levy is payable in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1992. Before an extension district may be subject to the levy and revenue limits specified in subparagraphs (2) of subsection 1, paragraphs “a” through “d”, and subsection 1, paragraph “e”, for fiscal years beginning on or after July 1, 1992, which levy is payable in fiscal

years beginning on or after July 1, 1993, the question of whether the district shall be subject to the levy and revenue limits as specified in such subsections\* must be submitted to the registered voters of the district. The question shall be submitted at the time of a state general election. If the question is approved by a majority of those voting on the question the levy and revenue limits specified in subparagraphs (2) of subsection 1, paragraphs “a” through “d”, and subsection 1, paragraph “e”, shall thereafter apply to the extension district. The question need only be approved at one state general election. If a majority of those voting on the question vote against the question, the district may continue to submit the question at subsequent state general elections until approved.

3. Not reprinted.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §2930; C46, 50, 54, §176.8; C58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, S81, §176A.10; 81 Acts, ch 69, §1]

91 Acts, ch 156, §1; 92 Acts, ch 1212, §7; 92 Acts, ch 1246, §25; 99 Acts, ch 133, §4; 2009 Acts, ch 41, §205

\*The word “paragraphs” probably intended; corrective legislation is pending

### **176A.16 General election law applicable.**

The provisions of chapter 49 apply to the elections held pursuant to this chapter, and the county commissioner of elections has responsibility for the conducting of those elections.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §176A.16]

90 Acts, ch 1149, §7

## PERSONS WITH MENTAL RETARDATION

**222.2 Definitions.**

When used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

1. to 4. Not reprinted.

5. “*Mental retardation*” or “*mentally retarded*” means a term or terms to describe children and adults who as a result of inadequately developed intelligence are significantly impaired in ability to learn or to adapt to the demands of society.

6. to 8. Not reprinted.

[C97, §2699; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §3411; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, §222.1; C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §222.2; 81 Acts, ch 78, §20, 30]

83 Acts, ch 96, §157, 159; 94 Acts, ch 1170, §35; 96 Acts, ch 1183, §1; 97 Acts, ch 169, §14; 2000 Acts, ch 1112, §47–50; 2001 Acts, ch 155, §14; 2004 Acts, ch 1090, §33

**222.16 Petition for adjudication of mental retardation.**

A petition for the adjudication of the mental retardation of a person within the meaning of this chapter may, with the permission of the court, be filed without fee against a person with the clerk of the district court of the county or city in which the person who is alleged to have mental retardation resides or is found. The petition may be filed by any relative of the person, by a guardian, or by any reputable citizen of the county where the person who is alleged to have mental retardation resides or is found.

Commitment of a person pursuant to section 222.31 does not constitute a finding or raise a presumption that the person is incompetent to vote. The court shall make a separate determination as to the person’s competency to vote. The court shall find a person incompetent to vote only upon determining that the person lacks sufficient mental capacity to comprehend and exercise the right to vote.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §3413; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, §222.3; C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §222.16]

96 Acts, ch 1129, §44; 98 Acts, ch 1185, §6

**222.31 Commitment — liability for charges.**

1. If in the opinion of the court, or of a commission as authorized in section 222.28, the person is mentally retarded within the meaning of this chapter and the court determines that it will be conducive to the welfare of that person and of the community to commit the person to a proper institution for treatment, training, instruction, care, habilitation, and support, and that services or support provided to the family of such a person who is a child will not enable the family to continue to care for the child in the child’s home, the court shall by proper order:

*a.* Commit the person to any public or private facility within or without the state, approved by the director of the department of human services. If the person has not been examined by a commission as appointed in section 222.28, the court shall, prior to issuing an order of commitment, appoint such a commission to examine the person for the purpose of determining the mental condition of the person. No order of commitment shall be issued unless the commission shall recommend that such order be issued and the private institution to which the person is to be committed shall advise the court that it is willing to receive the person.

b. (1) Commit the person to the state resource center designated by the administrator to serve the county in which the hearing is being held, or to a special unit. The court shall, prior to issuing an order of commitment, request that a diagnostic evaluation of the person be made by the superintendent of the resource center or the special unit, or the superintendent's qualified designee. The evaluation shall be conducted at a place as the superintendent may direct. The cost of the evaluation shall be defrayed by the county of legal settlement unless otherwise ordered by the court. The cost may be equal to but shall not exceed the actual cost of the evaluation. Persons referred by a court to a resource center or the special unit for diagnostic evaluation shall be considered as outpatients of the institution. No order of commitment shall be issued unless the superintendent of the institution recommends that the order be issued, and advises the court that adequate facilities for the care of the person are available.

(2) The court shall examine the report of the county attorney filed pursuant to section 222.13, and if the report shows that neither the person nor those liable for the person's support under section 222.78 are presently able to pay the charges rising out of the person's care in a resource center, or special treatment unit, shall enter an order stating that finding and directing that the charges be paid by the person's county of residence. The court may, upon request of the board of supervisors, review its finding at any subsequent time while the person remains at the resource center, or is otherwise receiving care or treatment for which this chapter obligates the county to pay. If the court finds upon review that the person or those legally responsible for the person are presently able to pay the expenses, that finding shall apply only to the charges incurred during the period beginning on the date of the board's request for the review and continuing thereafter, unless and until the court again changes its finding. If the court finds that the person, or those liable for the person's support, are able to pay the charges, the court shall enter an order directing that the charges be so paid to the extent required by section 222.78.

2. In its order, the court shall include a finding as to whether the person has sufficient mental capacity to comprehend and exercise the right to vote.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §3428; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, §222.18; C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §222.31]

83 Acts, ch 96, §157, 159; 83 Acts, ch 123, §81, 209; 84 Acts, ch 1299, §2, 3; 85 Acts, ch 67, §23; 92 Acts, ch 1229, §2; 98 Acts, ch 1185, §7; 2000 Acts, ch 1112, §51; 2009 Acts, ch 133, §215

#### **222.45 Power of court.**

On the hearing, the court may discharge the person with mental retardation from all supervision, control, and care, or may transfer the person from a public institution to a private institution, or vice versa, or transfer the person from a special unit to a resource center, or vice versa, as the court deems appropriate under all the circumstances. If the person has been determined to lack the mental capacity to vote, the court shall include in its order a finding that this determination remains in force or is revoked.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §3442; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, §222.32; C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §222.45]

84 Acts, ch 1299, §5; 96 Acts, ch 1129, §113; 98 Acts, ch 1185, §8; 2000 Acts, ch 1112, §51

## COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CENTERS

**230A.4 Trustees — qualifications — manner of selection.**

When the board or boards of supervisors of a county or affiliated counties decides to directly establish a community mental health center under this chapter, the supervisors, acting jointly in the case of affiliated counties, shall appoint a board of community mental health center trustees to serve until the next succeeding general election. The board of trustees shall consist of at least seven members each of whom shall be a resident of the county or one of the counties served by the center. An employee of the center is not eligible for the office of community mental health center trustee. At the first general election following establishment of the center, all members of the board of trustees shall be elected. They shall assume office on the second day of the following January which is not a Sunday or legal holiday, and shall at once divide themselves by lot into three classes of as nearly equal size as possible. The first class shall serve for terms of two years, the second class for terms of four years, and the third class for terms of six years. Thereafter, a member shall be elected to the board of trustees for a term of six years at each general election to succeed each member whose term will expire in the following year.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, S81, §230A.4; 81 Acts, ch 117, §1030]

**230A.5 Election of trustees.**

The election of community mental health center trustees shall take place at the general election on ballots which shall not reflect a nominee's political affiliation. Nomination shall be made by petition in accordance with chapter 45. The petition form shall be furnished by the county commissioner of elections, signed by eligible electors of the county or affiliated counties equal in number to one percent of the vote cast therein for president of the United States or governor, as the case may be, in the last previous general election, and shall be filed with the county commissioner of elections. A plurality shall be sufficient to elect community mental health center trustees, and no primary election for that office shall be held.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §230A.5]

91 Acts, ch 129, §23

EMANCIPATION OF MINORS

**232C.4 Effect of emancipation order.**

1. and 2. Not reprinted.

3. An emancipated minor shall remain subject to voting restrictions under chapter 48A, gambling restrictions under chapter 99B, 99D, 99F, 99G, or 725, alcohol restrictions under chapter 123, compulsory attendance requirements under chapter 299, and cigarette tobacco restrictions under chapter 453A.

4. to 6. Not reprinted.

2009 Acts, ch 153, §6

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

**256.2 Definitions.**

As used in this chapter:

1. “*Department*” means the department of education.
2. “*Director*” means the director of the department of education.
3. “*State board*” means the state board of education.

86 Acts, ch 1245, §1402

**256.10 Employment of professional staff.**

1. Not reprinted.

2. Appointments to the professional staff of the department shall be without reference to political party affiliation, religious affiliation, sex, or marital status, but shall be based solely upon fitness, ability, and proper qualifications for the particular position. The professional staff shall serve at the discretion of the director. A member of the professional staff shall not be dismissed for cause without appropriate due process procedures including a hearing.

3. Not reprinted.

86 Acts, ch 1245, §1410; 97 Acts, ch 212, §21; 2002 Acts, ch 1140, §6

**256.11 Educational standards.**

The state board shall adopt rules under chapter 17A and a procedure for accrediting all public and nonpublic schools in Iowa offering instruction at any or all levels from the prekindergarten level through grade twelve. The rules of the state board shall require that a multicultural, gender fair approach is used by schools and school districts. The educational program shall be taught from a multicultural, gender fair approach. Global perspectives shall be incorporated into all levels of the educational program. The rules adopted by the state board pursuant to section 256.17, Code Supplement 1987, to establish new standards shall satisfy the requirements of this section to adopt rules to implement the educational program contained in this section. The educational program shall be as follows:

1. to 4. Not reprinted.

5. In grades nine through twelve, a unit of credit consists of a course or equivalent related components or partial units taught throughout the academic year. The minimum program to be offered and taught for grades nine through twelve is:

- a.* Not reprinted.

*b.* Five units of the social studies including instruction in voting statutes and procedures, voter registration requirements, the use of paper ballots and voting systems in the election process, and the method of acquiring and casting an absentee ballot. All students shall complete a minimum of one-half unit of United States government and one unit of United States history. The one-half unit of United States government shall include the voting procedure as described in this lettered paragraph and section 280.9A. The government instruction shall also include a study of the Constitution of the United States and the Bill of Rights contained in the Constitution and an assessment of a student’s knowledge of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

c. to j. Not reprinted.

6. to 15. Not reprinted.

86 Acts, ch 1245, §1411; 87 Acts, ch 224, §26; 87 Acts, ch 233, §451; 88 Acts, ch 1018, §1, 2; 88 Acts, ch 1262, §1, 2; 89 Acts, ch 210, §4, 5; 89 Acts, ch 265, §23–26; 89 Acts, ch 278, §1, 2; 89 Acts, ch 319, §39, 40; 90 Acts, ch 1272, §32, 39, 40; 91 Acts, ch 104, §1; 91 Acts, ch 193, §1; 92 Acts, ch 1088, §1; 92 Acts, ch 1127, §1, 2; 92 Acts, ch 1159, §2; 92 Acts, ch 1163, §58; 93 Acts, ch 127, §1, 2; 94 Acts, ch 1091, §13; 94 Acts, ch 1152, §1; 2001 Acts, ch 56, §11; 2001 Acts, ch 159, §1–3; 2002 Acts, ch 1140, §7; 2004 Acts, ch 1027, §1; 2005 Acts, ch 3, §55; 2006 Acts, ch 1182, §2; 2007 Acts, ch 42, §1; 2007 Acts, ch 98, §2, 3; 2007 Acts, ch 108, §4; 2007 Acts, ch 148, §7; 2008 Acts, ch 1031, §42; 2008 Acts, ch 1187, §142, 145; 2009 Acts, ch 50, §1, 2; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §74

4. The department of management shall establish the amount of the educational improvement property tax to be levied or the amount of the combination of the educational improvement property tax to be levied and the amount of the school district income surtax to be imposed for each school year that the educational improvement amount is authorized. The educational improvement property tax and income surtax, if an income surtax is imposed, shall be levied and imposed, collected, and paid to the school district in the manner provided for the instructional support program in sections 257.21 through 257.26. Moneys received by a school district under the educational improvement program are miscellaneous income.

5. Once approved at an election, the authority of the board to use the educational improvement program shall continue until the board votes to rescind the educational improvement program or the voters of the school district by majority vote order the discontinuance of the program. The board shall submit at an election held on a date specified in section 39.2, subsection 4, paragraph "c", the proposition whether to discontinue the program upon the receipt of a petition signed by not less than one hundred eligible electors or thirty percent of the number of electors voting at the last preceding school election, whichever is greater.

6. Participation in an educational improvement program is not affected by a change in the boundaries of the school district, except as otherwise provided in this section. If each school district involved in school reorganization under chapter 275 has approved an educational improvement program, and if the voters have not voted upon the question of participation in the program in the reorganized district, the educational improvement program shall be in effect for the reorganized district that has been approved for the least amount and the shortest time in any of the districts.

7. Notwithstanding the requirement in subsection 1 that the regular program district cost per pupil for a budget year is one hundred ten percent of the regular state cost per pupil, the board of directors may participate in the educational improvement program as provided in this section if the school district had adopted an enrichment levy of fifteen percent of the state cost per pupil multiplied by the budget enrollment in the district prior to July 1, 1992, and upon expiration of the period for which the enrichment levy was adopted, adopts a resolution for the use of the instructional support program established in section 257.18. The maximum percent of the regular district cost of the district that may be used under this subsection shall not exceed five percent.

89 Acts, ch 135, §29; 90 Acts, ch 1190, §9; 92 Acts, ch 1171, §2; 92 Acts, ch 1187, §3; 93 Acts, ch 1, §5; 95 Acts, ch 67, §53; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §34, 35, 71

## ADVANCE FUNDING AUTHORITY

**257C.7 Staff.**

The executive director and staff of the Iowa finance authority, pursuant to chapter 16, shall also serve as executive director and staff of the advance funding authority, respectively. The executive director shall not, directly or indirectly, exert influence to induce any other officers or employees of the state to adopt a political view, or to favor a political candidate for office.

85 Acts, ch 34, §7; 85 Acts, ch 252, §56

CS85, §442A.7

C93, §257C.7

## COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Map of community college merged areas is printed on page M-25

**260C.2 Definitions.**

When used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

1. “*Community college*” means a publicly supported school which may offer programs of adult and continuing education, lifelong learning, community education, and up to two years of liberal arts, preprofessional, or occupational instruction partially fulfilling the requirements for a baccalaureate degree but confers no more than an associate degree; or which offers as the whole or as part of the curriculum up to two years of vocational or technical education, training, or retraining to persons who are preparing to enter the labor market.
2. “*Department*” means the department of education.
3. “*Director*” means the director of the department of education.
4. “*Instructional cost center*” means one of the following areas of course offerings of the community colleges:
  - a. Arts and sciences cost center.
  - b. Vocational-technical preparatory cost center.
  - c. Vocational-technical supplementary cost center.
  - d. Adult basic education and high school completion cost center.
  - e. Continuing and general education cost center.
5. “*Merged area*” means an area where two or more school systems or parts of school systems merge resources to operate a community college in the manner provided in this chapter.
6. “*State board*” means the state board of education.  
 [C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §280A.2]  
 85 Acts, ch 212, §21, 22; 90 Acts, ch 1253, §27  
 C93, §260C.2  
 96 Acts, ch 1215, §24; 2005 Acts, ch 169, §23

**260C.5 Duties of director.**

The director shall:

1. Not reprinted.
2. Change boundaries of director districts in a merged area when the board fails to change boundaries as required by law.
3. Make changes in boundaries of merged areas with the approval of the board of directors of each merged area affected by the change. When the boundaries of a merged area are changed, the director of the department of education may authorize the board of directors of the merged area to levy additional taxes upon the property within the merged area, or any part of the merged area, and distribute the taxes so that all parts of the merged area are paying their share toward the support of the college.
4. to 10. Not reprinted.  
 [C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §280A.25; 82 Acts, ch 1136, §11]  
 85 Acts, ch 212, §12; 86 Acts, ch 1245, §1470; 87 Acts, ch 115, §41; 87 Acts, ch 224, §57, 58; 90 Acts, ch 1253, §36  
 C93, §260C.25  
 93 Acts, ch 82, §4  
 C95, §260C.5  
 2002 Acts, ch 1140, §13

**260C.11 Governing board.**

1. The governing board of a merged area is a board of directors composed of one member elected from each director district in the area by the electors of the respective district. Members of the board shall be residents of the district from which elected. Successors shall be chosen at the regular school elections for members whose terms expire. The term of a member of the board of directors is four years and commences at the organizational meeting. Vacancies on the board shall be filled at the next regular meeting of the board by appointment by the remaining members of the board. A member so chosen shall be a resident of the district in which the vacancy occurred and shall serve until a member is elected pursuant to section 69.12 to fill the vacancy for the balance of the unexpired term. A vacancy is defined in section 277.29. A member shall not serve on the board of directors who is a member of a board of directors of a local school district or a member of an area education agency board.

2. Commencing with the regular school election in 1981, the governing board of a merged area shall consist of not less than five nor more than nine members.

3. Director districts shall be of approximately equal population within each merged area.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, §280A.12; C77, §280A.12, 280A.23(2); C79, 81, §280A.12, 280A.28; 82 Acts, ch 1136, §7]

C83, §280A.11

84 Acts, ch 1219, §15; 89 Acts, ch 136, §66

C93, §260C.11

2008 Acts, ch 1115, §2, 21; 2009 Acts, ch 41, §101

For provisions applicable to the transition from election of directors annually for three-year terms to the staggered election of directors biennially for four-year terms, see 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §21

**260C.12 Directors of merged area.**

1. The board of directors of the merged area shall organize at the first regular meeting in October following the regular school election. Organization of the board shall be effected by the election of a president and other officers from the board membership as board members determine. The board of directors shall appoint a secretary and a treasurer who shall each give bond as prescribed in section 291.2 and who shall each receive the salary determined by the board. The secretary and treasurer shall perform duties under chapter 291 and additional duties the board of directors deems necessary. However, the board may appoint one person to serve as the secretary and treasurer. If one person serves as the secretary and treasurer, only one bond is necessary for that person. The frequency of meetings other than organizational meetings shall be as determined by the board of directors but the president or a majority of the members may call a special meeting at any time.

2. Members of the board, other than the secretary and the treasurer, shall be allowed their actual expenses incurred in the performance of their duties and may be eligible to receive per diem compensation.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §280A.13; 82 Acts, ch 1039, §1, ch 1086, §1]

C83, §280A.12

90 Acts, ch 1253, §28

C93, §260C.12

2008 Acts, ch 1115, §3, 21

**260C.13 Director districts.**

1. The board of a merged area may change the number of directors on the board and shall make corresponding changes in the boundaries of director districts. Changes shall be completed not later than June 1 of the year of the regular school election. As soon as possible after adoption of the boundary changes, notice of changes in the director district boundaries shall be submitted by the merged area to the county commissioner of elections in all counties included in whole or in part in the merged area.

2. The board of the merged area shall redraw boundary lines of director districts in the merged area after each census to compensate for changes in population if changes in population have taken place.

3. Boundary lines of director districts shall be drawn according to the following standards:

*a.* All boundaries shall follow precinct boundaries or school director district boundaries unless a merged area director district boundary follows the boundary of a school district which divides one or more election precincts.

*b.* To the extent possible in order to comply with paragraph “*a*”, all districts shall be as nearly equal as practicable to the ideal population for the districts as determined by dividing the number of districts to be established into the population of the merged area.

*c.* All districts shall be composed of contiguous territory as compact as practicable.

*d.* Consideration shall not be given to the addresses of incumbent officeholders, political affiliations of registered voters, previous election results, or demographic information other than population head counts, except as required by the Constitution and the laws of the United States.

*e.* Cities shall not be divided into two or more districts unless the population of the city is greater than the ideal size of a district. Cities shall be divided into the smallest number of districts possible.

4. If more than one incumbent officeholder resides in a district redrawn during reprecincting, their terms of office expire after the next regular school election.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, §280A.23(2); C79, §280A.28, 280A.30; C81, §280A.28, 280A.29; 82 Acts, ch 1136, §9]

C83, §280A.13

C93, §260C.13

94 Acts, ch 1179, §14, 15; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §4, 21

**260C.15 Conduct of elections.**

1. Regular elections held by the merged area for the election of members of the board of directors as required by section 260C.11 or for any other matter authorized by law and designated for election by the board of directors of the merged area, shall be held on the date of the school election as fixed by section 277.1. However, elections held for the renewal of the twenty and one-fourth cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation levy authorized in section 260C.22 shall be held either on the date of the school election as fixed by section 277.1 or at a special election held on the second Tuesday in September of the even-numbered year. The election notice shall be made a part of the local school election notice published as provided in section 49.53 in each local school district where voting is to occur in the merged area election and the election shall be conducted by the county commissioner of elections pursuant to chapters 39 through 53 and section 277.20.

2. A candidate for member of the board of directors of a merged area shall be nominated by a petition signed by not less than fifty eligible electors of the director district from which the member is to be elected. The petition shall state the number of the director district from which the candidate seeks election, and the candidate's name and status as an eligible elector of the director district. Signers of the petition, in addition to signing their names, shall show their residence, including street and number if any, the school district in which they reside, and the date they signed the petition. A person may sign nomination petitions for more than one candidate for the same office, and the signature is not invalid solely because the person signed nomination petitions for one or more other candidates for the office. The petition shall include the affidavit of the candidate being nominated, stating the candidate's name and residence, and that the individual is a candidate, is eligible for the office sought, and if elected will qualify for the office.

3. Nomination papers in behalf of candidates for member of the board of directors of a merged area shall be filed with the secretary of the board not earlier than sixty-five days nor later than five o'clock p.m. on the fortieth day prior to the election at which members of the board are to be elected. The secretary shall deliver all nomination petitions so filed, together with the text of any public measure being submitted by the board of directors to the electorate, to the county commissioner of elections who is responsible under section 47.2 for conducting elections held for the merged area, not later than five o'clock p.m. on the day following the last day on which nomination petitions can be filed. That commissioner shall certify the names of candidates, and the text and summary of any public measure being submitted to the electorate, to all county commissioners of elections in the merged area by the thirty-fifth day prior to the election.

4. The votes cast in the election shall be canvassed and abstracts of the votes cast shall be certified as required by section 277.20. In each county whose commissioner of elections is responsible under section 47.2 for conducting elections held for a merged area, the county board of supervisors shall convene on the last Monday in September or at the last regular board meeting in September, canvass the abstracts of votes cast and declare the results of the voting. The commissioner shall at once issue certificates of election to each person declared elected, and shall certify to the merged area board in substantially the manner prescribed by section 50.27 the result of the voting on any public question submitted to the voters of the merged area. Members elected to the board of directors of a merged area shall qualify by taking the oath of office prescribed in section 277.28.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §280A.15]

88 Acts, ch 1119, §34; 88 Acts, ch 1158, §57; 89 Acts, ch 136, §67

C93, §260C.15

93 Acts, ch 35, §1; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §5, 21; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §75

**260C.19 Acquisition of sites and buildings.**

Boards of directors of merged areas may acquire sites and erect and equip buildings for use by community colleges and may contract indebtedness and issue bonds to raise funds for such purposes.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §280A.19]

90 Acts, ch 1253, §30

C93, §260C.19

**260C.21 Election to incur indebtedness.**

No indebtedness shall be incurred under section 260C.19 until authorized by an election. A proposition to incur indebtedness and issue bonds for community college purposes shall be deemed carried in a merged area if approved by a sixty percent majority of all voters voting on the proposition in the area. However, if the costs of utilities are paid by a community college with funds derived from the levy authorized under section 260C.22, the community college may use the general fund moneys that would have been used to pay the costs of utilities for capital expenditures, may invest the funds, or may incur indebtedness without an election, provided that the payments on the indebtedness incurred, and any interest on the indebtedness, can be made using general funds of the community college and the total payments on the principal and interest on the indebtedness do not exceed the amount of the costs of the utilities.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §280A.21]

90 Acts, ch 1253, §31

C93, §260C.21

**260C.22 Facilities levy by vote — borrowing — temporary cash reserve levy.**

1. *a.* In addition to the tax authorized under section 260C.17, the voters in a merged area may at the regular school election or at a special election held on the second Tuesday in September of the even-numbered year vote a tax not exceeding twenty and one-fourth cents per thousand dollars of assessed value in any one year for a period not to exceed ten years for the purchase of grounds, construction of buildings, payment of debts contracted for the construction of buildings, purchase of buildings and equipment for buildings, and the acquisition of libraries, for the purpose of paying costs of utilities, and for the purpose of maintaining, remodeling, improving, or expanding the community college of the merged area. If the tax levy is approved under this section, the costs of utilities shall be paid from the proceeds of the levy. The tax shall be collected by the county treasurers and remitted to the treasurer of the merged area as provided in section 331.552, subsection 29. The proceeds of the tax shall be deposited in a separate and distinct fund to be known as the voted tax fund, to be paid out upon warrants drawn by the president and secretary of the board of directors of the merged area district for the payment of costs incurred in providing the school facilities for which the tax was voted.

*b.* In order to make immediately available to the merged area the proceeds of the voted tax hereinbefore authorized to be levied, the board of directors of any such merged area is hereby authorized, without the necessity for any further election, to borrow money and enter into loan agreements in anticipation of the collection of such tax, and such board shall, by resolution, provide for the levy of an annual tax, within the limits of the special voted tax hereinbefore authorized, sufficient to pay the amount of any such loan and the interest thereon to maturity as the same becomes due. A certified copy of this resolution shall be filed with the county auditors of the counties in which such merged area is located, and the filing thereof shall make it a duty of such auditors to enter annually this levy for collection until funds are realized to repay the loan and interest thereon in full. Said loan must mature within the number of years for which the tax has been voted and shall bear interest at a rate or rates not exceeding that permitted by chapter 74A. Any loan agreement entered into pursuant to authority herein contained shall be in such form as the board of directors shall by resolution provide and the loan shall be payable as to both principal and interest from the proceeds of the annual levy of the voted tax

hereinbefore authorized, or so much thereof as will be sufficient to pay the loan and interest thereon. In furtherance of the foregoing the board of directors of such merged area may, with or without notice, negotiate and enter into a loan agreement or agreements with any bank, investment banker, trust company, insurance company or group thereof, whereunder the borrowing of the necessary funds may be assured and consummated. The proceeds of such loan shall be deposited in a special fund, to be kept separate and apart from all other funds of the merged area, and shall be paid out upon warrants drawn by the president and secretary of the board of directors to pay the cost of acquiring the school facilities for which the tax was voted.

c. If the boundary lines of a merged area are changed, the levy of the annual tax provided in this section sufficient to pay the amount due for a loan agreement and the interest on the loan agreement to maturity shall continue in any territory severed from the merged area until the loan with interest on the loan has been paid in full.

d. Nothing herein contained shall be construed to limit the authority of the board of directors to levy the full amount of the voted tax, but if and to whatever extent said tax is levied in any year in excess of the amount of principal and interest falling due in such year under any loan agreement, the first available proceeds thereof, to an amount sufficient to meet maturing installments of principal and interest under the loan agreement, shall be paid into the sinking fund for such loan before any of such taxes are otherwise made available to the merged area for other school purposes, and the amount required to be annually set aside to pay the principal of and interest on the money borrowed under such loan agreement shall constitute a first charge upon all of the proceeds of such annual special voted tax, which tax shall be pledged to pay said loan and the interest thereon.

e. This law shall be construed as supplemental and in addition to existing statutory authority and as providing an independent method of financing the cost of acquiring school facilities for which a tax has been voted under this section and for the borrowing of money and execution of loan agreements in connection therewith and shall not be construed as subject to the provisions of any other law. The fact that a merged area may have previously borrowed money and entered into loan agreements under authority herein contained shall not prevent such merged area from borrowing additional money and entering into further loan agreements provided that the aggregate of the amount payable under all of such loan agreements does not exceed the proceeds of the voted tax. All acts and proceedings heretofore taken by the board of directors or by any official of any merged area for the exercise of any of the powers granted by this section are hereby legalized and validated in all respects.

2. The proceeds of the tax voted under subsection 1, paragraph "a", prior to July 1, 1987, shall be used for the purposes for which it was approved by the voters and may be used for the purpose of paying the costs of utilities.

3. a. In addition to the tax authorized under section 260C.17, the board of directors of an area school may certify for levy by March 15, 1982, and March 15, 1983, a tax on taxable property in the merged area at rates that will provide total revenues for the two years equal to five percent of the area school's general fund expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1980, in order to provide a cash reserve for that area school. As nearly as possible, one-half the revenue for the cash reserve fund shall be collected during each year.

*b.* The revenues derived from the levies shall be placed in a separate cash reserve fund. Moneys from the cash reserve fund shall only be used to alleviate temporary cash shortages. If moneys from the cash reserve fund are used to alleviate a temporary cash shortage, the cash reserve fund shall be reimbursed immediately from the general fund of the community college as funds in the general fund become available, but in no case later than June 30 of the current fiscal year, to repay the funds taken from the cash reserve fund.

4. *a.* The board of directors of any merged area that failed to certify for levy under subsection 3 by March 15, 1982, and March 15, 1983, may certify for levy by April 15, 1997, and April 15, 1998, a tax on taxable property in the merged area at rates that will provide total revenues for the two years equal to five percent of the area school's general fund expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1995, in order to provide a cash reserve for that area school. As nearly as possible, one-half the revenue for the cash reserve fund shall be collected during each year.

*b.* The revenues derived from the levies shall be placed in a separate cash reserve fund. Notwithstanding subsection 3, moneys from the cash reserve fund established by a merged area under subsection 3 or this subsection shall be used only to alleviate temporary cash shortages. If moneys from the cash reserve fund are used to alleviate a temporary cash shortage, the cash reserve fund shall be reimbursed immediately from the general fund of the community college as funds in the general fund become available, but in no case later than June 30 of the current fiscal year, to repay the funds taken from the cash reserve fund.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §280A.22; 81 Acts, ch 88, §1; 82 Acts, ch 1136, §10]

84 Acts, ch 1003, §3; 87 Acts, ch 233, §476, 477; 90 Acts, ch 1253, §32

C93, §260C.22

96 Acts, ch 1215, §30; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §6, 21; 2009 Acts, ch 41, §263; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §76

**260C.28 Tax for equipment replacement and program sharing.**

1. Annually, the board of directors may certify for levy a tax on taxable property in the merged area at a rate not exceeding three cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation for equipment replacement for the community college.

2. However, the board of directors may annually certify for levy a tax on taxable property in the merged area at a rate in excess of the three cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation specified under subsection 1 if the excess tax levied does not cause the total rate certified to exceed a rate of nine cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation, and the excess revenue generated is used for purposes of program sharing between community colleges or for the purchase of instructional equipment. Programs that are shared shall be designed to increase student access to community college programs and to achieve efficiencies in program delivery at the community colleges, including, but not limited to, the programs described under section 260C.46. Prior to expenditure of the excess revenues generated under this subsection, the board of directors shall obtain the approval of the director of the department of education.

3. If the board of directors wishes to certify for a levy under subsection 2, the board shall direct the county commissioner of elections to submit the question of such authorization for the board at an election held on a date specified in section 39.2, subsection 4, paragraph “c”. If a majority of those voting on the question at the election favors authorization of the board to make such a levy, the board may certify for a levy as provided under subsection 2 during each of the ten years following the election. If a majority of those voting on the question at the election does not favor authorization of the board to make a levy under subsection 2, the board may submit the question to the voters again at an election held on a date specified in section 39.2, subsection 4, paragraph “c”.

83 Acts, ch 180, §1, 2

CS83, §280A.28

87 Acts, ch 187, §1; 90 Acts, ch 1253, §38; 92 Acts, ch 1246, §46

C93, §260C.28

94 Acts, ch 1175, §4; 98 Acts, ch 1215, §31; 2006 Acts, ch 1152, §31; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §36, 71

### **260C.39 Combining merged areas — election.**

1. Any merged area may combine with any adjacent merged area after a favorable vote by the electors of each of the areas involved. If the boards of directors of two or more merged areas agree to a combination, the question shall be submitted to the electors of each area at an election held on a date specified in section 39.2, subsection 4, paragraph “c”, and held on the same day in each area. Prior to the election, the board of each merged area shall notify the county commissioner of elections of the county in which the greatest proportion of the merged area’s taxable base is located, who shall publish notice of the election according to section 49.53. The two respective county commissioners of elections shall conduct the election pursuant to the provisions of chapters 39 to 53. The votes cast in the election shall be canvassed by the county board of supervisors, and the county commissioner of elections of each county in the merged areas shall certify the results to the board of directors of each merged area.

2. If the vote is favorable in each merged area, the boards of each area shall proceed to transfer the assets, liabilities, and facilities of the areas to the combined merged area, and shall serve as the acting board of the combined merged area until a new board of directors is elected. The acting board shall submit to the director of the department of education a plan for redistricting the combined merged area, and upon receiving approval from the director, shall provide for the election of a director from each new district at the next regular school election. The directors elected from each new district shall determine their terms by lot so that the terms of one-third of the members, as nearly as may be, expire each year. Election of directors for the combined merged area shall follow the procedures established for election of directors of a merged area. A combined merged area is subject to all provisions of law and rules governing merged areas.

3. The terms of employment of personnel, for the academic year following the effective date of the agreement to combine the merged areas shall not be affected by the combination of the merged areas, except in accordance with the procedures under sections 279.15 to 279.18 and section 279.24, to the extent those procedures are applicable, or under the terms of the base bargaining agreement. The authority and responsibility to offer new contracts or to continue, modify, or terminate existing contracts pursuant to any applicable procedures under chapter 279, shall be transferred to the acting, and then to the new, board of the combined merged area upon certification of a favorable vote to each of the merged areas affected by the agreement. The collective bargaining agreement of the merged area receiving the greatest amount of general state aid shall serve as the base agreement for the combined merged area and the employees of the merged areas which combined to form the new combined merged area shall automatically be accreted to the bargaining unit from that former merged area for purposes of negotiating the contracts for the following years without further action by the public employment relations board. If only one collective bargaining agreement is in effect among the merged areas which are combining under this section, then that agreement shall serve as the base agreement, and the employees of the merged areas which are combining to form the new combined merged area shall automatically be accreted to the bargaining unit of that former merged area for purposes of negotiating the contracts for the following years without further action by the public employment relations board. The board of the combined merged area, using the base agreement as its existing contract, shall bargain with the combined employees of the merged areas that have agreed to combine for the academic year beginning with the effective date of the agreement to combine merged areas. The bargaining shall be completed by March 15 prior to the academic year in which the agreement to combine merged areas becomes effective or within one hundred eighty days after the organization of the acting board of the new combined merged area, whichever is later. If a bargaining agreement was already concluded in the former merged area which has the collective bargaining agreement that is serving as the base agreement for the new combined merged area, between the former merged area board and the employees of the former merged area, that agreement is void, unless the agreement contained multiyear provisions affecting academic years subsequent to the effective date of the agreement to form a combined merged area. If the base collective bargaining agreement contains multiyear provisions, the duration and effect of the agreement shall be controlled by the terms of the agreement. The provisions of the base agreement shall apply to the offering of new contracts, or the continuation, modification, or termination of existing contracts between the acting or new board of the combined merged area and the combined employees of the new combined merged area.

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §280A.39]

86 Acts, ch 1245, §1475; 90 Acts, ch 1168, §40; 90 Acts, ch 1253, §44; 91 Acts, ch 117, §2

C93, §260C.39

96 Acts, ch 1215, §33; 97 Acts, ch 23, §27; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §37, 71

BLANK

**275.13 Affidavit — presumption.**

Such petition shall be accompanied by an affidavit showing the number of registered voters living in each affected district or portion thereof described in the petition and signed by a registered voter residing in the territory, and if parts of the territory described in the petition are situated in different area education agencies, the affidavit shall show separately as to each agency, the number of registered voters in the part of the agency included in the territory described. The affidavit shall be taken as true unless objections to it are filed on or before the time fixed for filing objections as provided in section 275.14 hereof.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4156; C46, 50, §276.3; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §275.13]

94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

**275.18 Special election called — time.**

1. When the boundaries of the territory to be included in a proposed school corporation and the number and method of the election of the school directors of the proposed school corporation have been determined as provided in this chapter, the area education agency administrator with whom the petition is filed shall give written notice of the election to the county commissioner of elections of the county in the proposed school corporation which has the greatest taxable base. The question shall be submitted to the voters at an election held on a date specified in section 39.2, subsection 4, paragraph “c” in the calendar year prior to the calendar year in which the reorganization will take effect.

2. The county commissioner of elections shall give notice of the election by one publication in the same newspaper in which previous notices have been published regarding the proposed school reorganization, and in addition, if more than one county is involved, by one publication in a legal newspaper in each county other than that of the first publication. The publication shall be not less than four nor more than twenty days prior to the election. If the decision published pursuant to section 275.15 or 275.16 includes a description of the proposed school corporation and a description of the director districts, if any, the notice for election and the ballot do not need to include these descriptions. Notice for an election shall not be published until the expiration of time for appeal, which shall be the same as that provided in section 275.15 or 275.16, whichever is applicable; and if there is an appeal, not until the appeal has been disposed of.

3. The area education agency administrator shall furnish to the commissioner a map of the proposed reorganized area which must be approved by the commissioner as suitable for posting. The map shall be displayed prominently in at least one place within the voting precinct, and inside each voting booth.

[R60, §2097, 2105; C73, §1800, 1801; C97, §2794; SS15, §2794, 2794-a; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4142, 4164; C46, 50, §274.24, 275.4, 276.11; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §275.18]

83 Acts, ch 53, §2; 85 Acts, ch 221, §4; 98 Acts, ch 1123, §12; 2008, ch 1115, §38, 71; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §77

**275.20 Separate vote in existing districts.**

The voters shall vote separately in each existing school district affected and voters residing in the entire existing district are eligible to vote upon the proposition to create a new school corporation and the proposition to levy the voter-approved physical plant and equipment levy under section 298.2, if the petition included a provision for a vote to authorize the levy. If a proposition receives a majority of the votes cast in each of at least seventy-five percent of the districts, and also a majority of the total number of votes cast in all of the districts, the proposition is carried.

[R60, §2097, 2105; C73, §1800, 1801; C97, §2794; SS15, §2794, 2794-a; C24, 27, 31, 35, §4142, 4166, 4167, 4191; C39, §4142, 4144.1, 4166, 4167; C46, 50, §274.24, 274.27, 276.13; C54, §275.20, 275.21; C58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §275.20]

89 Acts, ch 135, §66

**275.22 Canvass and return.**

The precinct election officials shall count the ballots, and make return to and deposit the ballots with the county commissioner of elections, who shall enter the return of record in the commissioner's office. The election tally lists, including absentee ballots, shall be listed by individual school district. The county commissioner of elections shall certify the results of the election to the area education agency administrator. If the majority of the votes cast by the registered voters is in favor of the proposition, as provided in section 275.20, a new school corporation shall be organized. If the majority of votes cast is opposed to the proposition, a new petition describing the identical or similar boundaries shall not be filed for at least six months from the date of the election. If territory is excluded from the reorganized district, action pursuant to section 274.37 shall be taken prior to the effective date of reorganization. The secretary of the new school corporation shall file a written description of the boundaries as provided in section 274.4.

[S13, §2820-f; SS15, §2794-a; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4144, 4169; C46, 50, §274.26, 275.5, 275.7, 276.16; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, §275.23; C77, 79, 81, §275.22]

83 Acts, ch 91, §3; 93 Acts, ch 160, §7; 95 Acts, ch 67, §53

**275.23 Frequency of change.**

A school district which is enlarged, reorganized, or changes its boundaries under sections 275.12 to 275.22, shall not file a petition under section 275.12 for the purpose of reducing the area served or changing the boundaries to exclude areas encompassed by the enlargement, reorganization, or boundary changes for a period of five years following the effective date of the enlargement, reorganization, or boundary change unless the action is approved by the director of the department of education.

[C77, 79, 81, §275.23]

86 Acts, ch 1245, §1463

**275.23A Redistricting following federal decennial census.**

1. School districts which have directors who represent director districts as provided in section 275.12, subsection 2, paragraphs “b”, “c”, “d”, and “e”, shall be divided into director districts according to the following standards:

*a.* All director district boundaries shall follow the boundaries of areas for which official population figures are available from the most recent federal decennial census and, wherever possible, shall follow precinct boundaries.

*b.* To the extent possible in order to comply with paragraph “a”, all director districts shall be as nearly equal as practicable to the ideal population for the districts as determined by dividing the number of districts to be established into the population of the school district.

*c.* All districts shall be composed of contiguous territory as compact as practicable unless the school district is composed of marginally adjacent territory. A school district which is composed of marginally adjacent territory shall have director districts composed of contiguous territory to the extent practicable.

*d.* Consideration shall not be given to the addresses of incumbent officeholders, political affiliations of registered voters, previous election results, or demographic information other than population head counts, except as required by the Constitution and the laws of the United States.

*e.* Cities shall not be divided into two or more districts unless the population of the city is greater than the ideal size of a director district. Cities shall be divided into the smallest number of director districts possible.

2. Following each federal decennial census the school board shall determine whether the existing director district boundaries meet the standards in subsection 1 according to the most recent federal decennial census. In addition to the authority granted to voters to change the number of directors or method of election as provided in sections 275.35, 275.36, and 278.1, the board of directors of a school district may, following a federal decennial census, by resolution and in accordance with this section, authorize a change in the method of election as set forth in section 275.12, subsection 2, or a change to either five or seven directors after the board conducts a hearing on the resolution. If the board proposes to change the number of directors from seven to five directors, the resolution shall include a plan for reducing the number of directors. If the board proposes to increase the number of directors to seven directors, two directors shall be added according to the procedure described in section 277.23, subsection 2. If necessary, the board of directors shall redraw the director district boundaries. The director district boundaries shall be described in the resolution adopted by the school board. The resolution shall be adopted no earlier than November 15 of the year immediately following the year in which the federal decennial census is taken nor later than May 15 of the second year immediately following the year in which the federal decennial census is taken. A copy of the plan shall be filed with the area education agency administrator of the area education agency in which the school’s electors reside. If the board does not provide for an election as provided in sections 275.35, 275.36, and 278.1 and adopts a resolution to change the number of directors or method of election in accordance with this subsection, the district shall change the number of directors or method of election as provided unless, within twenty-eight days following the action of the board, the secretary of the board receives a petition containing the required number of signatures, asking that an election be called to approve or disapprove the action of the board in adopting the resolution. The petition must be signed by eligible electors equal in number to not less than one hundred or thirty percent of the number of voters at the last preceding regular school election, whichever is greater. The board shall either

rescind its action or direct the county commissioner of elections to submit the question to the registered voters of the school district at an election held on a date specified in section 39.2, subsection 4, paragraph “c”. If a majority of those voting on the question at the election favors disapproval of the action of the board, the district shall not change the number of directors or method of election. If a majority of those voting on the question does not favor disapproval of the action, the board shall certify the results of the election to the department of management and the district shall change the number of directors or method of election as provided in this subsection. At the expiration of the twenty-eight-day period, if no petition is filed, the board shall certify its action to the department of management and the district shall change the number of directors or method of election as provided in this subsection.

3. The school board shall notify the state commissioner of elections and the county commissioner of elections of each county in which a portion of the school district is located when the boundaries of director districts are changed. The notices of changes submitted to the state commissioner shall be postmarked no later than the deadline for adoption of the resolution under subsection 2. The board shall provide the commissioners with maps showing the new boundaries and shall also certify to the state commissioner the populations of the new director districts as determined under the latest federal decennial census. If, following a federal decennial census a school district elects not to redraw director districts under this section, the school board shall so certify to the state commissioner of elections, and the school board shall also certify to the state commissioner the populations of the retained director districts as determined under the latest federal decennial census. If the state commissioner determines that a district board has failed to make the required changes by the dates specified by this section, the state commissioner of elections shall make or cause to be made the necessary changes as soon as possible. The state commissioner shall assess any expenses incurred to the school district. The state commissioner of elections may request the services of personnel and materials available to the legislative services agency to assist the state commissioner in making any required boundary changes.

4. If more than one incumbent director resides in a redrawn director district, the terms of office of the affected directors expire at the organizational meeting of the board of directors following the next regular school election following the adoption of the redrawn districts.

5. The boundary changes under this section take effect July 1 following their adoption for the next regular school election.

6. Section 275.9 and sections 275.14 through 275.23 do not apply to changes in director district boundaries made under this section.

83 Acts, ch 77, §3, 4; 89 Acts, ch 296, §24; 90 Acts, ch 1233, §9; 92 Acts, ch 1246, §45; 94 Acts, ch 1179, §17, 18; 95 Acts, ch 189, §18; 2002 Acts, ch 1024, §1, 3; 2002 Acts, ch 1140, §16, 46; 2003 Acts, ch 35, §44, 49; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §39, 71

**275.24 Effective date of change.**

When a school district is enlarged, reorganized, or changes its boundary pursuant to sections 275.12 to 275.22, the change shall take effect on July 1 following the date of the reorganization election held pursuant to section 275.18.

[C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §275.24]

83 Acts, ch 53, §3; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §40, 71

**275.25 Election of directors.**

1. *a.* If the proposition to establish a new school district carries under the method provided in this chapter, the area education agency administrator with whom the petition was filed shall give written notice of a proposed date for a special election for directors of the newly formed school district to the commissioner of elections of the county in the district involved in the reorganization which has the greatest taxable base. The proposed date shall be as soon as possible pursuant to section 39.2, subsections 1 and 2, and section 47.6, subsections 1 and 2, but not later than the third Tuesday in January of the calendar year in which the reorganization takes effect.

*b.* The election shall be conducted as provided in section 277.3, and nomination petitions shall be filed pursuant to section 277.4, except as otherwise provided in this subsection. Nomination petitions shall be filed with the secretary of the board of the existing school district in which the candidate resides not less than twenty-eight days before the date set for the special school election. The secretary of the board, or the secretary's designee, shall be present in the secretary's office until five p.m. on the final day to file the nomination papers. The nomination papers shall be delivered to the commissioner no later than five p.m. on the twenty-seventh day before the election.

*c.* If the special election is held in conjunction with the regular school election, the filing deadlines for the regular school election apply.

2. *a.* The number of directors of a school district is either five or seven as provided in section 275.12. In school districts that include a city of fifteen thousand or more population as shown by the most recent decennial federal census, the board shall consist of seven members elected in the manner provided in subsection 3. If it becomes necessary to increase the membership of a board, two directors shall be added according to the procedure described in section 277.23.

*b.* The county board of supervisors shall canvass the votes and the county commissioner of elections shall report the results to the area education agency administrator who shall notify the persons who are elected directors.

BLANK

3. The directors who are elected and qualify to serve shall serve until their successors are elected and qualify. At the special election, the three newly elected directors receiving the most votes shall be elected to serve until their successors qualify after the third regular school election date occurring after the effective date of the reorganization and the two newly elected directors receiving the next largest number of votes shall be elected to serve until the directors' successors qualify after the second regular school election date occurring after the effective date of the reorganization. However, in districts that include all or a part of a city of fifteen thousand or more population and in districts in which the proposition to establish a new corporation provides for the election of seven directors, the timelines specified in this subsection for the terms of office apply to the four newly elected directors receiving the most votes and then to the three newly elected directors receiving the next largest number of votes.

4. The board of the newly formed district shall organize within fifteen days after the special election upon the call of the area education agency administrator. The new board shall have control of the employment of personnel for the newly formed district for the next following school year under section 275.33. Following the first organizational meeting of the board of the newly formed district, the board may establish policy, organize curriculum, enter into contracts, complete planning, and take action as necessary for the efficient management of the newly formed community school district.

5. Section 49.8, subsection 4 does not permit a director to remain on the board of a school district after the effective date of a boundary change which places the director's residence outside the boundaries of the district. Vacancies caused by this occurrence on a board shall be filled in the manner provided in sections 279.6 and 279.7.

6. The board of the newly formed district shall appoint an acting superintendent and an acting board secretary. The appointment of the acting superintendent shall not be subject to the continuing contract provisions of sections 279.20, 279.23, and 279.24.

[R60, §2099, 2100, 2106; C73, §1801; C97, §2795; S13, §2820-f; SS15, §2794-a; C24, §4144, 4145, 4148; C27, 31, 35, §4144-a1, 4145, 4148; C39, §4144.2, 4144.3, 4145, 4148; C46, 50, §274.28-274.30, 275.5, 276.18; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §275.25]

83 Acts, ch 53, §4; 85 Acts, ch 221, §5; 86 Acts, ch 1239, §2; 88 Acts, ch 1038, §1; 93 Acts, ch 143, §43; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §82, 115; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §13, 21; 2009 Acts, ch 41, §263

For provisions applicable to the transition from election of directors annually for three-year terms to the staggered election of directors biennially for four-year terms, see 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §21

### **275.26 Payment of expenses.**

If a district is established or changes its boundaries it shall pay all expenses incurred by the area education agency administrator and the area education agency board in connection with the proceedings. The county commissioner of elections shall assess the costs of the election against the district as provided in section 47.3. If the proposition is dismissed or defeated at the election all expenses shall be apportioned among the several districts in proportion to the assessed valuation of property therein.

If the proposed district or boundary change embraces territory in more than one area education agency such expenses shall be certified to and, if necessary, apportioned among the several districts by the joint agency board. If in only one agency the certification shall be made by the agency administrator.

The respective boards to which such expenses are certified shall audit and order the same paid from the general fund. In the event of failure of any board

to so audit and pay the expenses certified to it, the area education agency administrator shall certify the expenses to the county auditor in the same manner as is provided for tuition claims in section 282.21 and the funds shall be transferred by the county treasurer from the debtor district to the agency board for payment of said expenses.

[S13, §2820-h; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4147, 4172; C46, 50, §274.32, 275.6, 276.19; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §275.26]

**275.27 Community school districts — part of area education agency.**

School districts created or enlarged under this chapter are community school districts and are part of the area education agency in which the greatest number of registered voters of the district reside at the time of the special election called for in section 275.18, and sections of the Code applicable to the common schools generally are applicable to these districts in addition to the powers and privileges conferred by this chapter. If a school district, created or enlarged under this chapter and assigned to an area education agency under this section, can demonstrate that students in the district were utilizing a service or program prior to the formation of the new or enlarged district that is unavailable from the area education agency to which the new or enlarged district is assigned, the district may be reassigned to the area education agency which formerly provided the service or program, upon an affirmative majority vote of the boards of the affected area education agencies to permit the change.

[C73, §1715; C97, §2802; S13, §2802; SS15, §2794-a; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4136; C46, 50, §274.18; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §275.27]

84 Acts, ch 1078, §11; 91 Acts, ch 44, §1; 95 Acts, ch 49, §6

**275.35 Change in number of directors — change in method of elections.**

1. A school district may change the number of directors to either five or seven and may also change its method of election of school directors to any method authorized by section 275.12 by submission of a proposal, stating the proposed new method of election, by the school board of such district to the electors at an election held on a date specified in section 39.2, subsection 4, paragraph “c”. The school board shall notify the county commissioner of elections who shall publish notice of the election in the manner provided in section 49.53. The election shall be conducted pursuant to chapters 39 through 53 by the county commissioner of elections. Such proposal shall be adopted if it is approved by a majority of the votes cast on the proposition.

2. If the proposal adopted by the voters requires the establishment of or change in director district boundaries, the school board shall draw the necessary boundaries within forty days after the date of the election. The boundaries shall be drawn according to the requirements of section 275.23A. Following adoption by the school board, the plan shall be submitted to the state commissioner of elections for approval.

[C58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §275.35]

2002 Acts, ch 1134, §83, 115; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §41, 71

**275.36 Submission of change to electors.**

1. If a petition for a change in the number of directors or in the method of election of school directors is filed with the school board of a school district pursuant to the requirements of section 278.2, the school board shall submit such proposition to the voters at an election held on a date specified in section 39.2, subsection 4, paragraph “c”. The petition shall be accompanied by an affidavit as required by section 275.13. If a proposition for a change in the number of directors or in the method of election of school directors submitted to the voters under this section is rejected, it shall not be resubmitted to the voters of the district in substantially the same form within the next three years; if it is approved, no other proposal may be submitted to the voters of the district under this section within the next six years.

2. If the proposal adopted by the voters requires the establishment of or a change in director district boundaries pursuant to section 275.12, subsection 2, paragraph “b”, “c”, “d”, or “e”, the school board shall draw the necessary boundaries within forty days after the date of the election. The boundaries shall be drawn according to the requirements of section 275.23A. Following adoption by the school board, the plan shall be submitted to the state commissioner of elections for approval. The new boundaries shall become effective on July 1 following approval.

[C58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §275.36]

93 Acts, ch 143, §44; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §84, 115; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §42, 71

**275.37 Increase in number of directors.**

At the next succeeding regular school election in a district where the number of directors has been increased from five to seven, and directors are elected at large, there shall be elected a director to succeed each incumbent director whose term is expiring in that year, and two additional directors. Upon organizing as required by section 279.1, either one or two of the newly elected directors who received the fewest votes in the election shall be assigned a term of two years as necessary in order that as nearly as possible one-half of the members of the board shall be elected biennially. If some or all directors are elected from director districts, the board shall assign terms appropriate for the method of election used by the district.

[C58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §275.37, 275.38; C75, 77, 79, 81, §275.37]

2002 Acts, ch 1134, §85, 115; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §14, 21

For provisions applicable to the transition from election of directors annually for three-year terms to the staggered election of directors biennially for four-year terms, see 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §21

**275.37A Decrease in number of directors.**

1. A change from seven to five directors shall be effected in a district at the first regular school election after authorization by the voters in the following manner:

*a.* If at the first election in the district there are four terms expiring, three directors shall be elected. At the second election in that district, if three terms are expiring, two directors shall be elected.

*b.* If at the first election there are three terms expiring, two directors shall be elected. At the second election in that district, if four terms are expiring, three directors shall be elected.

2. If some or all of the directors are elected from director districts, the board shall devise a plan to reduce the number of members so that as nearly as possible one-half of the members of the board shall be elected biennially and so that each district will be continuously represented.

2002 Acts, ch 1134, §86, 115; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §15, 21

For provisions applicable to the transition from election of directors annually for three-year terms to the staggered election of directors biennially for four-year terms, see 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §21

**275.38 Implementing changed method of election.**

If change in the method of election of school directors is approved at an election, the directors who were serving unexpired terms or were elected concurrently with approval of the change of method shall serve out the terms for which they were elected. If the plan adopted is that described in section 275.12, subsection 2, paragraph “b”, “c”, “d”, or “e”, the board shall at the earliest practicable time designate the districts from which residents are to be elected as school directors at each of the next two succeeding regular school elections, arranging so far as possible for elections of directors as residents of the respective districts to coincide with the expiration of terms of incumbent members residing in those districts. If an increase in the size of the board from five to seven members is approved concurrently with the change in method of election of directors, the board shall make the necessary adjustment in the manner prescribed in section 275.37, as well as providing for implementation of the districting plan under this section.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §275.38]

2008 Acts, ch 1115, §16, 21, 43, 71

For provisions applicable to the transition from election of directors annually for three-year terms to the staggered election of directors biennially for four-year terms, see 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §21

**275.39 Excluded territory included in new petition.**

Territory described in the petition of a proposed reorganization which has been set out of the proposed reorganization by the area education agency board or the joint boards and in the event of an appeal, after the decision of the director of the department of education or the courts, may be included in any new petition for reorganization.

[C62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §275.39]

86 Acts, ch 1245, §1464

**275.41 Alternative method for director elections — temporary appointments.**

1. As an alternative to the method specified in section 275.25 for electing directors in a newly formed community school district, the procedure specified in this section may be used and if used, the petition filed under section 275.12 shall state the number of directors on the initial board. If two districts are named in the petition, either five or seven directors shall serve on the initial board. If three or more districts are named in the petition, either seven or nine directors shall serve on the initial board. The petition shall specify the number of directors to be retained from each district, and those numbers shall be proportionate to the populations of the districts. If the exclusion of territory from a reorganization affects the proportionate balance of directors among the affected districts specified in the petition, or if the proposal specified in the petition does not comply with the requirement for proportionate representation, the area education board shall modify the proposal. However, all districts affected shall retain at least one member.

2. Prior to the organizational meeting of the newly formed district, the boards of the former districts shall designate directors to be retained as members to serve on the initial board, and if the total number of directors determined under subsection 1 is an even number, that number of directors shall function and may within five days of the organizational meeting appoint one additional director by unanimous vote with all directors voting. Otherwise, the board shall function until a special election can be held to elect an additional director. The procedure for calling the special election shall be the procedure specified in section 275.25. If there is an insufficient number of board members eligible to be retained from a former school district, the board of the former school district may appoint members to fill the vacancies. A vacancy occurs if there is an insufficient number of former board members who reside in the newly formed district or if there is an insufficient number who are willing to serve on the board of the newly formed district.

3. Prior to the effective date of the reorganization, the initial board shall approve a plan that commences at the first regular school election held after the effective date of the merger and is completed at the third regular school election held after the effective date of the merger, to replace the initial board with the regular board. If the petition specifies a number of directors on the regular board to be different from the number of directors on the initial board, the plan shall provide that the number specified in the petition for the regular board is in place by the time the regular board is formed. The plan shall provide that as nearly as possible one-half of the members of the board shall be elected biennially, and if a special election was held to elect a member to create an odd number of members on the board, the term of that member shall end at the organizational meeting following the third regular school election held after the effective date.

4. The board of the newly formed district shall organize within forty-five days after the approval of the merger upon the call of the area education agency administrator. The new board shall have control of the employment of all personnel for the newly formed district for the ensuing school year. Following the organization of the new board the board shall have authority to establish policy, organize curriculum, enter into contracts and complete such planning and take such action as is essential for the efficient management of the newly formed community school district.

5. The board of the newly formed district shall appoint an acting superintendent and an acting board secretary. The appointment of the acting superintendent shall not be subject to the continuing contract provision of sections 279.20, 279.23, and 279.24.

6. Section 49.8, subsection 4, shall not permit a director to remain on the board of a school district after the effective date of a boundary change which places the director's residence outside the boundaries of the district. Vacancies so caused on any board shall be filled in the manner provided in sections 279.6 and 279.7.

[C62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, §275.25; C79, 81, §275.41]

83 Acts, ch 53, §5; 85 Acts, ch 221, §9; 93 Acts, ch 160, §12, 13; 2005 Acts, ch 3, §58; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §17, 21; 2009 Acts, ch 41, §248

For provisions applicable to the transition from election of directors annually for three-year terms to the staggered election of directors biennially for four-year terms, see 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §21

## DISSOLUTION OF DISTRICTS

**275.55 Election.**

1. After the final hearing on the dissolution proposal, the board of the school district shall submit the proposition to the voters at the next election held on a date specified in section 39.2, subsection 4, paragraph “c”. However, the date of the final hearing on the dissolution proposal must be not less than thirty nor more than sixty days before the election. The proposition submitted to the voters residing in the school district shall describe each separate area to be attached to a contiguous school district and shall name the school district to which it will be attached. In addition to the description, a map may be included in the summary of the question on the ballot.

2. The board shall give written notice of the election to the county commissioner of elections. The county commissioner of elections shall give notice of the election by one publication in the same newspaper in which the previous notice was published about the hearing, which publication shall not be less than four nor more than twenty days prior to the election.

3. The proposition shall be adopted if a majority of the electors voting on the proposition approve its adoption.

4. The attachment is effective July 1 following its approval. If the dissolution proposal is for the dissolution of a school district with a certified enrollment of fewer than six hundred, the territory located in the school district that dissolved is eligible, if approved by the director of the department of education, for a reduction in the foundation property tax levy under section 257.3, subsection 1. If the director approves a reduction in the foundation property tax levy as provided in this section, the director shall notify the director of the department of management of the reduction.

[C81, §275.55]

88 Acts, ch 1263, §4; 89 Acts, ch 135, §69; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §87, 115; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §44, 71; 2009 Acts, ch 50, §5

**275.57 Changing director district boundaries following dissolution.**

1. If a school district accepting attachments of a dissolved district is currently divided into director districts as provided in section 275.12, subsection 2, paragraph “b”, “c”, “d”, or “e”, the board of directors of the district shall draft a proposal to incorporate the newly received territory into existing contiguous director districts. If the attached territory is contiguous to more than one director district, the board may divide the territory and attach it to more than one director district. If necessary to comply with the population equality standards prescribed in section 275.23A, the board shall redraw the boundaries of all director districts according to the standards provided in section 275.23A, subsection 1, paragraphs “a”, “c”, and “d”.

2. A public hearing on the proposed changes to director districts shall be held no later than May 15 following the dissolution. Not less than ten nor more than twenty days before the public hearing, the board shall publish notice of the time and place of the hearing.

## CHAPTER 277

## SCHOOL ELECTIONS

277.1	Regular election.	277.23	Directors — number — change.
277.2	Elections on public measures.	277.24	Repealed by 70 Acts, ch 1025, §40.
277.3	Election laws applicable.	277.25	Directors in new districts.
277.4	Nominations required.	277.26	Repealed by 75 Acts, ch 81, §154.
277.5	Objections to nominations.	277.27	Qualification.
277.6	Territory outside county.	277.28	Oath required.
277.7	Petitions for public measures.	277.29	Vacancies.
277.8	through 277.19 Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.	277.30	Vacancies filled by election.
277.20	Canvassing returns.	277.31	Surrendering office.
277.21	Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.	277.32	Penalties.
277.22	Contested elections.	277.33	Transferred to §277.3.
		277.34	Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.

**277.1 Regular election.**

The regular election shall be held biennially on the second Tuesday in September of each odd-numbered year in each school district for the election of officers of the district and merged area and for the purpose of submitting to the voters any matter authorized by law.

[C51, §1111, 1114; R60, §2027, 2030, 2031; C73, §1717–1719; C97, §2746, 2751; C24, §4194, 4211; C27, §4194, 4211, 4216-b1; C31, 35, §4216-c1; C39, §4216.01; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §277.1]

83 Acts, ch 101, §63; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §18, 21

For provisions applicable to the transition from election of directors annually for three-year terms to the staggered election of directors biennially for four-year terms, see 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §21

**277.2 Elections on public measures.**

Unless otherwise stated, the date of an election on a public measure authorized to be held by a school district is limited to the dates specified in section 39.2, subsection 4, paragraph “c”.

[C97, §2750; S13, §2750; C24, 27, §4197; C31, 35, §4216-c2; C39, §4216.02; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §277.2]

89 Acts, ch 135, §70; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §45, 71

**277.3 Election laws applicable.**

The provisions of chapters 39 to 53 shall apply to the conduct of all school elections and the school elections shall be conducted by the county commissioner of elections, except as otherwise specifically provided in this chapter.

[C97, §2754; S13, §2754; C24, 27, §4204; C31, 35, §4216-c33; C39, §4216.33; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, §277.33; C77, 79, 81, §277.3]

**277.4 Nominations required.**

Nomination papers for all candidates for election to office in each school district shall be filed with the secretary of the school board not more than sixty-four days, nor less than forty days before the election. Nomination petitions shall be filed not later than five p.m. on the last day for filing. If the school board secretary is not readily available during normal office hours, the secretary may designate a full-time employee of the school district who is ordinarily available to accept nomination papers under this section. On the final

date for filing nomination papers the office of the school secretary shall remain open until five p.m.

Each candidate shall be nominated by petition. If the candidate is running for a seat in the district which is voted for at-large, the petition must be signed by the greater of at least ten eligible electors or a number of eligible electors equal in number to not less than one percent of the registered voters of the school district, which number need not be more than fifty. If the candidate is running for a seat which is voted for only by the voters of a director district, the petition must be signed by the greater of at least ten eligible electors of the director district or a number of eligible electors equal in number to not less than one percent of the registered voters in the director district, which number need not be more than fifty.

Signers of nomination petitions shall include their addresses and the date of signing, and must reside in the same director district as the candidate if directors are elected by the voters of a director district, rather than at-large. A person may sign nomination petitions for more than one candidate for the same office, and the signature is not invalid solely because the person signed nomination petitions for one or more other candidates for the office. The petition shall be filed with the affidavit of the candidate being nominated, stating the candidate's name, place of residence, that such person is a candidate and is eligible for the office the candidate seeks, and that if elected the candidate will qualify for the office. The affidavit shall also state that the candidate is aware that the candidate is disqualified from holding office if the candidate has been convicted of a felony or other infamous crime and the candidate's rights have not been restored by the governor or by the president of the United States.

The secretary of the school board shall accept the petition for filing if on its face it appears to have the requisite number of signatures and if it is timely filed. The secretary of the school board shall note upon each petition and affidavit accepted for filing the date and time that the petition was filed. The secretary of the school board shall deliver all nomination petitions, together with the complete text of any public measure being submitted by the board to the electorate, to the county commissioner of elections not later than five o'clock p.m. on the day following the last day on which nomination petitions can be filed.

## CHAPTER 278

## POWERS OF ELECTORS

278.1	Enumeration.	278.3	Power given electors not to limit
278.2	Submission of proposition.		directors' power.

---

**278.1 Enumeration.**

1. The voters at the regular election shall have power to:
  - a. Direct a change of textbooks regularly adopted.
  - b. Except when restricted by section 297.25, direct the sale, lease, or other disposition of any schoolhouse or school site or other property belonging to the corporation, and the application to be made of the proceeds thereof. However, nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent the sale, lease, exchange, gift, or grant and acceptance of any interest in real or other property of the corporation to the extent authorized in section 297.22.
  - c. Determine upon additional branches that shall be taught.
  - d. Instruct the board that school buildings may or may not be used for meetings of public interest.
  - e. Direct the transfer of any surplus in the debt service fund, physical plant and equipment levy fund, capital projects funds, or public education and recreation levy fund to the general fund.
  - f. Authorize the board to obtain, at the expense of the corporation, roads for proper access to its schoolhouses.
  - g. Authorize a change to either five or seven directors. The proposition for the change shall specify the number of directors to be elected, and which of the methods of election authorized by section 275.12, subsection 2, is to be used if the change is approved by the voters.
  - h. Authorize a change in the method of conducting elections or in the number of directors as provided in sections 275.35 and 275.36. If a proposition submitted to the voters under this paragraph or paragraph "g" is rejected, it may not be resubmitted to the voters of the district in substantially the same form within the next three years; if it is approved, no other proposal may be submitted to the voters of the district under this paragraph or paragraph "g" within the next six years. The establishment or abandonment of director districts or a change in the boundaries of director districts shall be implemented as prescribed in section 275.37.
  - i. Change the name of the school district, without affecting its corporate existence, rights, or obligations, and subject to the requirements of section 274.6.
2.
  - a. The board may, with approval of sixty percent of the voters voting in an election in the school district, make extended time contracts not to exceed twenty years in duration for rental of buildings to supplement existing schoolhouse facilities; and where it is deemed advisable for buildings to be constructed or placed on real estate owned by the school district, these contracts may include lease-purchase option agreements, the amounts to be paid out of the physical plant and equipment levy fund. The election shall be held on a date specified in section 39.2, subsection 4, paragraph "c".
  - b. Before entering into a rental or lease-purchase option contract, authorized by the electors, the board shall first adopt plans and specifications for a building or buildings which it considers suitable for the intended use and also adopt a form of rental or lease-purchase option contract. The board shall then invite bids thereon, by advertisement published once each week for two consecutive

weeks, in a newspaper published in the county in which the building or buildings are to be located, and the rental or lease-purchase option contract shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, but the board may reject any and all bids and advertise for new bids.

[C51, §1115; R60, §2028, 2033; C73, §1717, 1807; C97, §2749; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4217; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §278.1]

89 Acts, ch 135, §71, 72; 94 Acts, ch 1029, §16, 17; 97 Acts, ch 170, §85; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §90, 115; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §46, 71; 2008 Acts, ch 1148, §1; 2009 Acts, ch 10, §1, 4

### **278.2 Submission of proposition.**

1. The board may, and upon the written request of one hundred eligible electors or a number of electors which equals thirty percent of the number of electors who voted in the last regular school board election, whichever number is greater, shall, direct the county commissioner of elections to provide in the notice of the regular election for the submission of any proposition authorized by law to the voters. When the board has directed the commissioner to submit to the voters a proposition authorized by section 278.1, subsection 1, paragraph “g” or “h”, it shall not thereafter direct the commissioner to submit at the same election any other proposition under either of those paragraphs.

2. Petitions filed under this section shall be filed with the secretary of the school board at least seventy-five days before the date of the regular school election, if the question is to be included on the ballot at that election. The petition shall include the signatures of the petitioners, a statement of their place of residence, and the date on which they signed the petition.

[R60, §2028; C97, §2749; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4218; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §278.2]

89 Acts, ch 30, §1; 89 Acts, ch 136, §64; 90 Acts, ch 1238, §36; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §20, 21

### **278.3 Power given electors not to limit directors’ power.**

The power vested in the electors by section 278.1 shall not affect or limit the power granted to the board of directors of a school district in section 297.7, subsection 2, and the authority granted in said subsection shall be construed as independent of the power vested in the electors by section 278.1.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §278.3]

## MISCELLANEOUS SECTIONS

### DIRECTORS — POWERS AND DUTIES

#### **279.6 Vacancies — qualification — tenure.**

Vacancies occurring among the officers or members of a school board shall be filled by the board by appointment. A person so appointed to fill a vacancy in an elective office shall hold office until a successor is elected and qualified pursuant to section 69.12. A person appointed to fill a vacancy in an appointive office shall hold such office for the residue of the unexpired term and until a successor is appointed and qualified. Any person so appointed shall qualify within ten days thereafter in the manner required by section 277.28.

A vacancy shall be filled at the next regular school election if a member of a school board resigns from the board not later than forty-five days before the election and the notice of resignation specifies an effective date at the beginning of the next term of office for elective school officials. The president of the board shall declare the office vacant as of the date of the next organizational meeting. Nomination papers shall be received for the unexpired term of the resigning member. The person elected at the next regular school election to fill the vacancy shall take office at the same time and place as the other elected school board members.

[C51, §1120; R60, §2037, 2038, 2079; C73, §1730, 1738; C97, §2758, 2771, 2772; S13, §2758, 2771, 2772; C24, §4223; C27, 31, 35, §4223-a2; C39, §4223.2; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §279.6]

2002 Acts, ch 1134, §91, 115

#### **279.7 Vacancies filled by special election — qualification — tenure.**

If a vacancy or vacancies occur among the elective officers or members of a school board and the remaining members of the board have not filled the vacancy within thirty days after the vacancy occurs, or when the board is reduced below a quorum, the secretary of the board, or if there is no secretary, the area education agency administrator, shall call a special election in the district, subdistrict, or subdistricts, as the case may be, to fill the vacancy or vacancies. The county commissioner of elections shall publish the notices required by law for special elections, and the election shall be held not sooner than thirty days nor later than forty days after the thirtieth day following the occurrence of the vacancy. If the secretary fails for more than three days to call an election, the administrator shall call it.

Any appointment by the board to fill any vacancy in an elective office on or after the day notice has been given for a special election to fill such vacancy as provided herein shall be null and void.

In any case of a special election as provided herein to fill a vacancy occurring among the elective officers or members of a school board before the expiration of a full term, the person so elected shall qualify within ten days thereafter in the manner required by section 277.28 and shall hold office for the residue of the unexpired term and until a successor is elected, or appointed, and qualified.

Nomination petitions shall be filed in the manner provided in section 277.4, except that the petitions shall be filed not less than twenty-five days before the date set for the election.

[C51, §1120; R60, §2037, 2038, 2079; C73, §1730, 1738; C97, §2758, 2771, 2772; S13, §2758, 2771, 2772; C24, §4223; C27, 31, 35, §4223-b1; C39, §4223.3; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §279.7]

87 Acts, ch 48, §1; 89 Acts, ch 136, §65; 93 Acts, ch 67, §1

**279.39 School buildings.**

The board of any school corporation shall establish attendance centers and provide suitable buildings for each school in the district and may at the regular or a special meeting resolve to submit to the registered voters of the district at an election held on a date specified in section 39.2, subsection 4, paragraph “c”, the question of voting a tax or authorizing the board to issue bonds, or both.

93 Acts, ch 160, §15; 95 Acts, ch 67, §53; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §47, 71

UNIFORM SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

**280.9A History and government required — voter registration.**

1. The board of directors of each local public school district and the authorities in charge of each nonpublic school shall require that all students in grades nine through twelve complete, as a condition of graduation, instruction in American history and the governments of Iowa and the United States, including instruction in voting statutes and procedures, voter registration requirements, the use of paper ballots and voting systems in the election process, and the method of acquiring and casting an absentee ballot.

2. The county auditor, upon request and at a site chosen by the county auditor, shall make available to schools within the county voting equipment or sample ballots that are generally used within the county, at times when this equipment or sample ballots are not in use for their recognized purpose.

3. At least twice during each school year, the board of directors of each local public school district operating a high school and the authorities in charge of each accredited nonpublic school operating a high school shall offer the opportunity to register to vote to each student who is at least seventeen and one-half years of age, as required by section 48A.23.

88 Acts, ch 1129, §1; 90 Acts, ch 1238, §38; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §57; 2008 Acts, ch 1031, §45; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §78

## TEACHERS

## PENSION AND ANNUITY RETIREMENT SYSTEM

**294.8 Pension system.**

A school district located in whole or in part within a city having a population of twenty-five thousand one hundred or more may establish a pension and annuity retirement system for the public school teachers of such district. However, in cities having a population less than seventy-five thousand, establishment of the system shall be ratified by a vote of the people at a regular school election.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4345; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §294.8]  
2009 Acts, ch 57, §79

## MISCELLANEOUS SECTIONS

### SCHOOLHOUSES AND SCHOOLHOUSE SITES

#### **297.9 Use for other than school purposes.**

The board of directors of any school district may authorize the use of any schoolhouse and its grounds within such district for the purpose of meetings of granges, lodges, agricultural societies, and similar societies, for parent-teacher associations, for community recreational activities, community education programs, election purposes, other meetings of public interest, public forums and similar community purposes; provided that such use shall in no way interfere with school activities; such use to be for such compensation and upon such terms and conditions as may be fixed by said board for the proper protection of the schoolhouse and the property belonging therein, including that of pupils, except that in the case of community education programs, any compensation necessary for programs provided specifically by community education and not those provided through community education by other agencies or organizations shall be compensated from the funding provided for community education programs.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4371; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §297.9]

Schoolhouses as polling places, §49.24

#### **297.11 Use forbidden.**

If the voters of such district at a regular election forbid the use of any schoolhouse or grounds, the board shall not permit that use until the action of the voters is rescinded by the voters at an election held on a date specified in section 39.2, subsection 4, paragraph “c”.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4373; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §297.11]

2008 Acts, ch 1115, §48, 71; 2009 Acts, ch 41, §110

#### **297.25 Rule of construction.**

Section 297.22 shall be construed as independent of the power vested in the electors by section 278.1, and as additional to such power. If a board of directors has exercised its independent power under section 297.22 regarding the disposition of real or personal property of the school district and has by resolution approved such action, the electors may subsequently proceed to exercise their power under section 278.1 for a purpose directly contrary to an action previously approved by the board of directors in accordance with section 297.22. However, the electors shall be limited to ten days after an action by the board to exercise such power for a purpose directly contrary to the board's action.

[C27, 31, 35, §4385-a4; C39, §4385.4; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §297.25]

97 Acts, ch 184, §4; 2008 Acts, ch 1148, §3; 2009 Acts, ch 10, §3, 4

BLANK

## SCHOOL TAXES AND BONDS

**298.2 Imposition of physical plant and equipment levy.**

1. A physical plant and equipment levy of not exceeding one dollar and sixty-seven cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation in the district is established except as otherwise provided in this subsection. The physical plant and equipment levy consists of the regular physical plant and equipment levy of not exceeding thirty-three cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation in the district and a voter-approved physical plant and equipment levy of not exceeding one dollar and thirty-four cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation in the district. However, the voter-approved physical plant and equipment levy may consist of a combination of a physical plant and equipment property tax levy and a physical plant and equipment income surtax as provided in subsection 4 with the maximum amount levied and imposed limited to an amount that could be raised by a one dollar and thirty-four cent property tax levy. The levy limitations of this subsection are subject to subsection 6.

2. If the electors of a school district have authorized a voter-approved physical plant and equipment levy not exceeding sixty-seven cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation in the district prior to July 1, 1997, the levy shall continue for the period authorized under the voter-approved levy, and the maximum levy that can be authorized by the electors under the voter-approved levy on or after July 1, 1997, under this section, is an additional sixty-seven cents for a period to coincide with the period for which the initial physical plant and equipment levy in the district was approved.

3. The board of directors of a school district may certify for levy by April 15 of a school year a tax on all taxable property in the school district for the regular physical plant and equipment levy.

4. *a.* The board may on its own motion, and upon the written request of not less than one hundred eligible electors or thirty percent of the number of eligible electors voting at the last regular school election, whichever is greater, shall, direct the county commissioner of elections to provide for submitting the proposition of levying the voter-approved physical plant and equipment levy for a period of time authorized by the voters in the notice of election, not to exceed ten years, in the notice of the regular school election. The proposition is adopted if a majority of those voting on the proposition at the election approves it. The voter-approved physical plant and equipment levy shall be funded either by a physical plant and equipment property tax or by a combination of a physical plant and equipment property tax and a physical plant and equipment income surtax, as determined by the board. However, if the board intends to enter into a rental or lease arrangement under section 279.26, or intends to enter into a loan agreement under section 297.36, only a property tax shall be levied for those purposes. Subject to the limitations of section 298.14, if the board uses a combination of a physical plant and equipment property tax and a physical plant and equipment surtax, for each fiscal year the board shall determine the percent of income surtax to be imposed expressed as full percentage points, not to exceed twenty percent.

*b.* If a combination of a property tax and income surtax is used, by April 15 of the previous school year, the board shall certify the percent of the income surtax to be imposed and the amount to be raised to the department of management and the department of management shall establish the rate of the property tax and income surtax for the school year. The physical plant and equipment property tax and income surtax shall be levied or imposed, collected, and paid to the school district in the manner provided for the instructional support program in sections 257.21 through 257.26.

5. *a.* The proposition to levy the voter-approved physical plant and equipment levy is not affected by a change in the boundaries of the school district, except as otherwise provided in this section. If each school district involved in a school reorganization under chapter 275 has adopted the voter-approved physical plant and equipment levy or the sixty-seven and one-half cents per thousand dollars of assessed value schoolhouse levy under section 278.1, subsection 7, Code 1989, prior to July 1, 1991, and if the voters have not voted upon the proposition to levy the voter-approved physical plant and equipment levy in the reorganized district, the existing voter-approved physical plant and equipment levy or the existing schoolhouse levy, as applicable, is in effect for the reorganized district for the least amount and the shortest time for which it is in effect in any of the districts.

*b.* Authorized levies for the period of time approved are not affected as a result of a failure of a proposition proposed to expand the purposes for which the funds may be expended.

6. If the board of directors of a school district in which the voters have authorized the schoolhouse tax prior to July 1, 1991, has entered into a rental or lease arrangement under section 279.26, Code 1989, or has entered into a loan agreement under section 297.36, Code 1989, the levy shall continue for the period authorized and the maximum levy that can be authorized under the voter-approved physical plant and equipment levy is reduced by the rate of the schoolhouse tax.

89 Acts, ch 135, §107; 92 Acts, ch 1187, §7; 93 Acts, ch 1, §9, 10; 97 Acts, ch 182, §1, 2; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §80

#### **298.7 Contract for use of library — tax levy.**

1. The board of directors of a school corporation in which there is no free public library may contract with a free public library for the free use of the library by the residents of the school district, and pay the library the amount agreed upon for the use of the library as provided by law. During the existence of the contract, the board shall certify annually a tax sufficient to pay the library the consideration agreed upon, not exceeding twenty cents per thousand dollars of assessed value of the taxable property of the district. During the existence of the contract, the school corporation is relieved from the requirement that the school treasurer withhold funds for library purposes. This section does not apply in townships where a contract for other library facilities is in existence.

2. However, if a school district which is qualified to contract for library services under subsection 1 levies a tax not to exceed twenty cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation of the taxable property for school library purposes in the fiscal year before a reorganization involving the district, the tax levy shall remain valid for succeeding fiscal years, and shall be levied and collected against the taxable property of the former district which is part of the reorganized district for school library purposes. The contract and the tax levy may be discontinued by a petition signed by eligible electors residing in the former district. The petition requesting the discontinuance must be signed by no fewer than one hundred eligible electors or thirty percent of the number voting at the last preceding school election in the former district, whichever is greater. The petition must be filed with the secretary of the board of directors of the school district at least seventy-five days before the next regular school election. The proposal to discontinue the levy shall be deemed adopted if the vote in favor of the discontinuance is equal to at least a majority of the total vote cast on the proposal by the electors of the former school district.

[S13, §2806; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4391; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §298.7]

84 Acts, ch 1288, §1; 93 Acts, ch 74, §1

### **298.9 Special levies.**

If the voter-approved physical plant and equipment levy, consisting solely of a physical plant and equipment property tax levy, is approved by the voters at an election held on a date specified in section 39.2, subsection 4, paragraph “c”, and certified to the board of supervisors after the regular levy is made, the board shall at its next regular meeting levy the tax and cause it to be entered upon the tax list to be collected as other school taxes. If the certification is filed prior to May 1, the annual levy shall begin with the tax levy of the year of filing. If the certification is filed after May 1 in a year, the levy shall begin with the levy of the fiscal year succeeding the year of the filing of the certification.

[C97, §2807; SS15, §1303; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4394; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §298.9]

89 Acts, ch 135, §110; 95 Acts, ch 67, §23; 96 Acts, ch 1215, §54; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §49, 71; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §81, 97

### **298.18 Bond tax — election — leasing buildings.**

1. *a.* The board of each school corporation shall, when estimating and certifying the amount of money required for general purposes, estimate and certify to the board of supervisors of the proper county for the debt service fund the amount required to pay interest due or that may become due for the fiscal year beginning July 1, thereafter upon lawful bonded indebtedness, and in addition thereto such amount as the board may deem necessary to apply on the principal.

*b.* The amount estimated and certified to apply on principal and interest for any one year shall not exceed two dollars and seventy cents per thousand dollars of the assessed valuation of the taxable property of the school corporation except as otherwise provided in this section.

*c.* For the sole purpose of computing the amount of bonds which may be issued as a result of the application of any limitation referred to in this section, all interest on the bonds in excess of that accruing in the first twelve months may be excluded from the first annual levy of taxes, so that the need for including more than one year’s interest in the first annual levy of taxes to pay the bonds and interest shall not operate to further restrict the amount of bonds

which may be issued, and in certifying the annual levies to the county auditor or auditors such first annual levy of taxes shall be sufficient to pay all principal of and interest on said bonds becoming due prior to the next succeeding annual levy and the full amount of such first annual levy shall be entered for collection by said auditor or auditors, as provided in chapter 76.

d. The amount estimated and certified to apply on principal and interest for any one year may exceed two dollars and seventy cents per thousand dollars of assessed value by the amount approved by the voters of the school corporation, but not exceeding four dollars and five cents per thousand of the assessed value of the taxable property within any school corporation, provided that the registered voters of such school corporation have first approved such increased amount at an election held on a date specified in section 39.2, subsection 4, paragraph "c".

2. The proposition submitted to the voters at such election shall be in substantially the following form:

Shall the board of directors of the ..... (insert name of school corporation) in the County of ....., State of Iowa, be authorized to levy annually a tax exceeding two dollars and seventy cents per thousand dollars, but not exceeding ..... dollars and ..... cents per thousand dollars of the assessed value of the taxable property within said school corporation to pay the principal of and interest on bonded indebtedness of said school corporation, it being understood that the approval of this proposition shall not limit the source of payment of the bonds and interest but shall only operate to restrict the amount of bonds which may be issued?

3. Notice of the election shall be given by the county commissioner of elections according to section 49.53. The county commissioner of elections shall conduct the election pursuant to the provisions of chapters 39 through 53 and certify the results to the board of directors. The proposition shall not be deemed carried or adopted unless the vote in favor of such proposition is equal to at least sixty percent of the total vote cast for and against the proposition at the election. Whenever such a proposition has been approved by the voters of a school corporation as hereinbefore provided, no further approval of the voters of such school corporation shall be required as a result of any subsequent change in the boundaries of such school corporation.

4. The voted tax levy referred to in this section shall not limit the source of payment of bonds and interest but shall only restrict the amount of bonds which may be issued.

5. a. The ability of a school corporation to exceed two dollars and seventy cents per thousand dollars of assessed value to service principal and interest payments on bonded indebtedness is limited and conferred only to those school corporations engaged in the administration of elementary and secondary education.

b. If a school corporation leases a building or property, which has been used as a junior college by such corporation, to a community college, the annual amounts certified as herein provided by such leasing school corporation for payment of interest and principal due on lawful bonded indebtedness incurred by such leasing school corporation for purchasing, building, furnishing, reconstructing, repairing, improving, or remodeling the building leased or acquiring or adding to the site of such property leased, to the extent of the respective annual rent the school corporation will receive under such lease, shall not be considered as a part of the total amount estimated and certified for the purposes of determining if such amount exceeds any limitation contained in this section.

[C73, §1823; C97, §2813; S13, §2813; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4403; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §298.18]

90 Acts, ch 1253, §109; 94 Acts, ch 1029, §28; 2001 Acts, ch 56, §14; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §50, 71; 2009 Acts, ch 133, §110

### **298.18A Levy adjustment.**

If, in the opinion of the board of a school corporation, after having originally estimated and certified the amount required to pay interest and principal due upon bonded indebtedness incurred before July 1, 1995, an adjustment in the amount certified in excess of that previously levied by the resolution authorizing issuance of the bonds becomes necessary in anticipation of future projected revenue shortfalls resulting from a machinery and equipment-related taxable valuation decrease from the valuation as of January 1, 1994, an adjustment shall be permitted subject to the following limitations:

1. An adjustment shall be permitted only in a district in which machinery and equipment valuation exceeds twenty percent of total taxable valuation as of January 1, 1994.

2. The adjustment shall not result in a total amount levied in excess of the two dollar and seventy cent per thousand dollars of assessed valuation limit provided in section 298.18. An adjustment in excess of the two dollar and seventy cent per thousand dollars of assessed valuation limit shall be subject to the election provisions for increases of up to four dollars and five cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation provisions of section 298.18.

3. The amount of the adjustment, when added to the amount originally estimated and certified, for any one year, shall not exceed the least of:

a. The amount required to pay interest and principal due upon bonded indebtedness for the three-year period beginning on the date of the adjustment.

b. One hundred twenty-five percent of the amount originally estimated and certified.

c. One hundred ten percent of the total district levies for the fiscal year preceding the fiscal year in which the adjustment is to be added.

4. The amount of the adjustment plus the amount of state replacement moneys received under section 427B.19A which is attributable to the amount of the adjustment, when added to the amount originally estimated and certified, shall not result in the levying of an amount over the life of the issue in excess of the amount necessary for principal and interest repayment.

5. Amounts collected pursuant to this section shall be deposited in a separate debt service account distinct from the account established to hold principal and interest revenues resulting from the original levy.

6. An adjustment shall not be permitted which results in extending a levy beyond the earlier of the following:

*a.* Ten years from the original date of certification of the amount required to pay interest and principal.

*b.* June 30, 2007.

96 Acts, ch 1179, §1; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §51, 71

**298.21 School bonds.**

The board of directors of any school corporation when authorized by the voters at an election held on a date specified in section 39.2, subsection 4, paragraph “c”, may issue the negotiable, interest-bearing school bonds of the corporation for borrowing money for any or all of the following purposes:

1. To acquire sites for school purposes.
2. To erect, complete, or improve buildings authorized for school purposes.
3. To acquire equipment for schools, sites, and buildings.

[S13, §2812-d; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4406; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §298.21]

2008 Acts, ch 1115, §52, 71

Vote required to authorize bonds, §75.1

## CHAPTER 300

## EDUCATIONAL AND RECREATIONAL TAX

300.1	Public recreation.	300.3	Discontinuance of levy.
300.2	Tax levy.	300.4	Community education.

---

**300.1 Public recreation.**

Boards of directors of school districts may establish and maintain for children and adults public recreation places and playgrounds, and necessary accommodations for the recreation places and playgrounds, in the public school buildings and grounds of the district. The board may cooperate under chapter 28E with a public agency having the custody and management of public parks or public buildings and grounds, and with a private agency having custody and management of buildings or grounds open to the public, located within the school district, and may provide for the supervision and instruction necessary to carry on public educational and recreational activities in the parks, buildings, and grounds located within the district.

[S13, §2823-u; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4433; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §300.1; 81 Acts, ch 95, §2]

**300.2 Tax levy.**

1. The board of directors of a school district may, and upon receipt of a petition signed by eligible electors equal in number to at least twenty-five percent of the number of voters at the last preceding school election, shall, direct the county commissioner of elections to submit to the registered voters of the school district the question of whether to levy a tax of not to exceed thirteen and one-half cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation for public educational and recreational activities authorized under this chapter. The question shall be submitted at an election held on a date specified in section 39.2, subsection 4, paragraph “c”.

2. If a majority of the votes cast upon the proposition is in favor of the proposition, the board shall certify the amount required for a fiscal year to the county board of supervisors by April 15 of the preceding fiscal year. The board of supervisors shall levy the amount certified. The amount shall be placed in the public education and recreation levy fund of the district and shall be used only for the purposes specified in this chapter.

3. The proposition to levy the public recreation and playground tax is not affected by a change in the boundaries of a school district, except as otherwise provided in this section. If each district involved in school reorganization under chapter 275 has adopted the public recreation and playground tax, and if the voters have not voted upon the proposition to levy the public recreation and playground tax in the reorganized district, the existing public recreation and playground tax shall be in effect for the reorganized district for the least amount that has been approved in any of the districts and until discontinued pursuant to section 300.3.

[S13, §2823-u1, -u2; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4434, 4435; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §300.2, 300.3; 81 Acts, ch 95, §3]

93 Acts, ch 1, §13; 93 Acts, ch 160, §17; 94 Acts, ch 1029, §29; 95 Acts, ch 67, §53; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §53, 71

**300.3 Discontinuance of levy.**

Once approved at an election, the authority of the board to levy and collect the tax under section 300.2 shall continue until the board votes to rescind the levy and collection of the tax or the voters of the school district by majority vote order the discontinuance of the levy and collection of the tax. The tax shall be discontinued in the manner provided in this section or in the manner provided for imposition of the tax in section 300.2.

[S13, §2823-u4, -u5; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4437, 4438; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §300.5, 300.6; 81 Acts, ch 95, §4]

**300.4 Community education.**

The tax levied under sections 300.2 and 300.3 may also be used for community education purposes under chapter 276.

[81 Acts, ch 95, §5]

## MISCELLANEOUS SECTIONS

## TEXTBOOKS

**301.24 Petition — election.**

Whenever a petition signed by one hundred eligible electors residing in the school district or a number of eligible electors residing in the school district equal to at least ten percent of the number of voters in the last preceding regular school election, whichever is greater, is filed with the secretary sixty days or more before the regular school election, asking that the question of providing free textbooks for the use of pupils in the school district's attendance centers be submitted to the voters at the next regular school election, the secretary shall cause notice of the proposition to be given in the notice of the election.

[C97, §2836; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4464; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §301.24]

2001 Acts, ch 56, §15; 2006 Acts, ch 1044, §1; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §82

**301.25 Loaning books.**

If, at such election, a majority of the legal voters present and voting by ballot thereon shall authorize the board of directors of said school district to loan textbooks to the pupils free of charge, then the board shall procure such books as shall be needed, in the manner provided by law for the purchase of textbooks, and loan them to the pupils.

[C97, §2837; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4465; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §301.25]

**301.27 Discontinuance of loaning.**

The electors may, at any election called as provided in section 301.24, direct the board to discontinue the loaning of textbooks to pupils.

[C97, §2837; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4467; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §301.27]

BLANK

## COUNTY HOME RULE IMPLEMENTATION

## DEFINITIONS

**331.101 Definitions.**

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

1. “*Amendment*” means a revision or repeal of an existing ordinance or code of ordinances.
  2. “*Auditor*” means the county auditor or a deputy auditor or employee designated by the county auditor.
  3. “*Board*” means the board of supervisors of a county.
  4. “*Book*”, “*record*”, and “*register*” include any mode of permanent recording including but not limited to, card files, microfilm or microfiche, electronic records and the like.
  5. “*Charter*” means a formal document establishing the functions, powers, organization, structure, privileges, rights, and duties of county government not inconsistent with state law.
  6. “*Clerk*” means the clerk of the district court or the clerk’s designee.
  7. “*Commission*” means a body of eligible electors authorized to study, review, analyze, and recommend an alternative form of county government.
  8. “*County attorney*” means the county attorney or a deputy county attorney or assistant county attorney designated by the county attorney.
  9. “*Measure*” means an ordinance, amendment, resolution, or motion.
  10. “*Ordinance*” means a county law of a general and permanent nature.
  11. “*Recorded vote*” means a record, roll call vote.
  12. “*Recorder*” means the county recorder or a deputy recorder or employee designated by the county recorder.
  13. “*Resolution*” or “*motion*” means a statement of policy or an order for action to be taken.
  14. “*Sheriff*” means the county sheriff or a deputy sheriff designated by the sheriff.
  15. “*State law*” includes the Constitution of the State of Iowa and state statutes.
  16. “*Supervisor*” means a member of the board of supervisors.
  17. “*Treasurer*” means the county treasurer or a deputy treasurer or employee designated by the county treasurer.
- [C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §343.13; S81, §331.101; 81 Acts, ch 117, §100]  
88 Acts, ch 1229, §2; 90 Acts, ch 1233, §23

ALTERNATIVE FORMS OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**331.201 Board membership — qualifications — term.**

1. The board shall consist of three members unless the membership is increased to five as provided in section 331.203.

2. A supervisor must be a registered voter of the county or supervisor district of the county which the supervisor represents.

3. The office of supervisor is an elective office except that if a vacancy occurs on the board, a successor may be appointed to the unexpired term as provided in section 69.14A.

4. The term of office of a supervisor is four years unless a change in the supervisor district representation plan or in the number of supervisors on the board requires the election of one or two supervisors for an initial term of two years.

[R60, §303; C73, §294, 299; C97, §410; SS15, §410; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5106; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §331.1; S81, §331.201; 81 Acts, ch 117, §200]

94 Acts, ch 1169, §64; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §83

9. A city or county wishing to terminate its membership in the community commonwealth government must do so pursuant to the existing charter procedure under this chapter or chapter 372, whichever is applicable.

A city or county may join an existing community commonwealth government by resolution of the board or council, whichever is applicable, or upon petition of eligible electors of the city or county, whichever is applicable, equal in number to at least twenty-five percent of the persons who voted at the last general election for the office of governor or president of the United States, whichever is fewer. Within fifteen days after receiving a valid petition, the applicable governing body shall adopt a resolution in favor of participation and shall immediately forward the resolution to the governing body of the community commonwealth. If a majority of the community commonwealth governing body approves the resolution, the question of joining the community commonwealth shall be submitted to the electorate of the petitioning city or county within sixty days after approval of the resolution.

91 Acts, ch 256, §34; 2004 Acts, ch 1066, §28, 31

### **331.263 Service delivery.**

1. The governing body of the community commonwealth government shall administer the provision of services in each of the designated service areas and shall have the authority to determine the boundaries of the service areas.

2. The governing body of the community commonwealth shall have the authority to levy county taxes and shall have the authority to levy city taxes to the extent the city tax levy authority is transferred by the charter to the community commonwealth. A city participating in the community commonwealth shall transfer a portion of the city's tax levy authorized under section 384.1 or 384.12, whichever is applicable, to the governing body of the community commonwealth. The maximum rates of taxes authorized to be levied under sections 384.1 and 384.12 by a city participating in the community commonwealth shall be reduced by an amount equal to the rates of the same or similar taxes levied in the city by the governing body of the community commonwealth.

91 Acts, ch 256, §35

## POWERS AND DUTIES OF A COUNTY

## GENERAL POWERS AND DUTIES

**331.301 General powers and limitations.**

1. to 9. Not reprinted.

10. A county may enter into leases or lease-purchase contracts for real or personal property in accordance with the following terms and procedures:

*a.* A county shall lease or lease-purchase property only for a term which does not exceed the economic life of the property, as determined by the board.

*b.* A lease or lease-purchase contract entered into by a county may contain provisions similar to those sometimes found in leases between private parties, including, but not limited to, the obligation of the lessee to pay any of the costs of operation or ownership of the leased property and the right to purchase the leased property.

*c.* A provision of a lease or lease-purchase contract which stipulates that a portion of the rent payments be applied as interest is subject to chapter 74A. Other laws relating to interest rates do not apply. Chapter 75 is not applicable. A county enterprise is a separate entity under this subsection, whether it is governed by the board or another governing body.

*d.* The board must follow substantially the same authorization procedure required for the issuance of general obligation bonds issued for the same purpose to authorize a lease or a lease-purchase contract made payable from the debt service fund.

*e.* The board may authorize a lease or lease-purchase contract which is payable from the general fund if the contract would not cause the total of lease and lease-purchase payments due from the general fund of the county in any single future fiscal year for all lease or lease-purchase contracts in force on the date of the authorization, excluding payments to exercise purchase options or to pay the expenses of operation or ownership of the property, to exceed ten percent of the last certified general fund budget amount in accordance with the following procedures:

(1) The board must follow substantially the authorization procedures of section 331.443 to authorize a lease or lease-purchase contract for personal property which is payable from the general fund. The board must follow substantially the authorization procedures of section 331.443 to authorize a lease or lease-purchase contract for real property which is payable from the general fund if the principal amount of the lease-purchase contract does not exceed the following limits:

(a) Four hundred thousand dollars in a county having a population of twenty-five thousand or less.

(b) Five hundred thousand dollars in a county having a population of more than twenty-five thousand but not more than fifty thousand.

(c) Six hundred thousand dollars in a county having a population of more than fifty thousand but not more than one hundred thousand.

(d) Eight hundred thousand dollars in a county having a population of more than one hundred thousand but not more than two hundred thousand.

(e) One million dollars in a county having a population of more than two hundred thousand.

However, if the principal amount of a lease or lease-purchase contract pursuant to this subparagraph is less than twenty-five thousand dollars, the board may authorize the lease or lease-purchase contract without following the authorization procedures of section 331.443.

(2) The board must follow the following procedures to authorize a lease or lease-purchase contract for real property which is payable from the general fund if the principal amount of the lease or lease-purchase contract exceeds the limits set forth in subparagraph (1):

(a) The board must institute proceedings for entering into a lease or lease-purchase contract payable from the general fund by causing a notice of the meeting to discuss entering into the lease or lease-purchase contract, including a statement of the principal amount and purpose of the lease or lease-purchase and the right to petition for an election, to be published as provided in section 331.305 at least ten days prior to the discussion meeting. No sooner than thirty days following the discussion meeting shall the board hold a meeting at which it is proposed to take action to enter into the lease or lease-purchase contract.

(b) If at any time before the end of the thirty-day period after which a meeting may be held to take action to enter into the lease or lease-purchase contract, a petition is filed with the auditor in the manner provided by section 331.306, asking that the question of entering into the lease or lease-purchase contract be submitted to the registered voters of the county, the board shall either by resolution declare the proposal to enter into the lease or lease-purchase contract to have been abandoned or shall direct the county commissioner of elections to call a special election upon the question of entering into the lease or lease-purchase contract. However, for purposes of this subparagraph, the petition shall not require signatures in excess of one thousand persons. The question to be placed on the ballot shall be stated affirmatively in substantially the following manner: Shall the county of ..... enter into a lease or lease-purchase contract in an amount of \$..... for the purpose of .....? Notice of the election and its conduct shall be in the manner provided in section 331.442, subsections 2 through 4.

(c) If a petition is not filed or if a petition is filed and the proposition of entering into a lease or lease-purchase contract is approved at the election, the board may proceed and enter into the lease or lease-purchase contract.

f. The governing body may authorize a lease or lease-purchase contract payable from the net revenues of a county enterprise or combined county enterprise by following the authorization procedures of section 331.464.

g. A lease or lease-purchase contract to which a county is a party or in which a county has a participatory interest is an obligation of a political subdivision of this state for the purposes of chapters 502 and 636, and is a lawful investment for banks, trust companies, building and loan associations, savings and loan associations, investment companies, insurance companies, insurance associations, executors, guardians, trustees, and any other fiduciaries responsible for the investment of funds.

h. Property that is lease-purchased by a county is exempt under section 427.1, subsection 2.

i. A contract for construction by a private party of property to be leased or lease-purchased by a county is not a contract for a public improvement under section 331.341, subsection 1. However, if a lease-purchase contract is funded in advance by means of the lessor depositing moneys to be administered by a county, with the county's obligation to make rent payments commencing with its receipt of moneys, a contract for construction of the property in question awarded by the county is a public improvement and is subject to section 331.341, subsection 1.

11. to 16. Not reprinted.

[C51, §93; R60, §221; C73, §279; C97, §394; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5128; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §332.1; S81, §331.301; 81 Acts, ch 117, §300]

85 Acts, ch 156, §1; 86 Acts, ch 1211, §19; 87 Acts, ch 115, §51; 89 Acts, ch 101, §1; 92 Acts, ch 1138, §1; 92 Acts, ch 1204, §8; 95 Acts, ch 67, §53; 95 Acts, ch 206, §8, 12; 99 Acts, ch 186, §1; 2001 Acts, ch 143, §1; 2001 Acts, ch 153, §9, 16; 2004 Acts, ch 1119, §1; 2006 Acts, ch 1010, §93; 2009 Acts, ch 100, §8, 21

### **331.305 Publication of notices.**

Unless otherwise provided by state law, if notice of an election, hearing, or other official action is required by this chapter, the board shall publish the notice at least once, not less than four nor more than twenty days before the date of the election, hearing, or other action, in one or more newspapers which meet the requirements of section 618.14. Notice of an election shall also comply with section 49.53.

[R60, §312(23); C73, §303(24); C97, §423; SS15, §423; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5261; C46, 50, 54, 58, §330.18, 345.1; C62, 66, §111A.6, 330.18, 345.1; C71, §111A.6, 313A.35, 330.18, 345.1; C73, §111A.6, 313A.35, 330.18, 345.1, 361.5; C75, 77, 79, §111A.6, 313A.35, 330.18, 332.3(13), 345.1, 361.5; C81, §111A.6, 313A.35, 330.18, 332.3(13), 345.1, 361.5, 444.9(2); S81, §331.305; 81 Acts, ch 117, §304]

### **331.306 Petitions of eligible electors.**

If a petition of the voters is authorized by this chapter, the petition is valid if signed by eligible electors of the county equal in number to at least ten percent of the votes cast in the county for the office of president of the United States or governor at the preceding general election, unless otherwise provided by state law. The petition shall include the signatures of the petitioners, a statement of their place of residence, and the date on which they signed the petition.

Petitions authorized by this chapter shall be filed with the board of supervisors not later than eighty-two days before the date of the general election if the question is to be voted upon at the general election. If the petition is found to be valid, the board of supervisors shall, not later than sixty-nine days before the general election, notify the county commissioner of elections to submit the question to the registered voters at the general election.

A petition shall be examined before it is accepted for filing. If it appears valid on its face it shall be accepted for filing. If it lacks the required number of signatures it shall be returned to the petitioners.

Petitions which have been accepted for filing are valid unless written objections are filed. Objections must be filed with the county auditor within five working days after the petition was filed. The objection process in section 44.7 shall be followed for objections filed pursuant to this section.

[C73, §299; C97, §410; SS15, §410; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5107, 5108; C46, 50, 54, §330.17, 331.2; C58, 62, 66, §111A.2, 330.17, 331.2; C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, §111A.2, 330.17, 331.2, 331.9; C81, §111A.2, 174.10, 330.17, 331.2, 331.9; S81, §331.306; 81 Acts, ch 117, §305]

89 Acts, ch 136, §69; 94 Acts, ch 1180, §48; 95 Acts, ch 67, §53

### **331.309 Elections on public measures.**

Unless otherwise stated, the dates of elections on public measures authorized in this chapter are limited to those specified for counties in section 39.2.

2008 Acts, ch 1115, §55, 71

- d. to f.* Not reprinted.
- g.* Establishment of a county care facility as provided in chapter 347B, and sections 135C.23 and 135C.24.
- h.* Not reprinted.
- i.* Establishment of an airport commission as provided in sections 330.17 to 330.20.
- j.* Not reprinted.
- 2. to 9. Not reprinted.
- 1. a–f. [S81, §331.382(1); 81 Acts, ch 117, §381]
- g.* [C51, §828; R60, §1396; C73, §1372; C97, §2241; SS15, §2241; C24, 27, 31, 35, §5338; C39, §3828.115; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §253.1; S81, §331.382; 81 Acts, ch 117, §381]
- h–j.* [S81, §331.382(1); 81 Acts, ch 117, §381]
- 83 Acts, ch 96, §157, 159; 83 Acts, ch 101, §76; 89 Acts, ch 20, §17; 98 Acts, ch 1162, §27, 30; 2008 Acts, ch 1124, §19; 2009 Acts, ch 41, §120

### **331.383 Duties and powers relating to elections.**

The board shall ensure that the county commissioner of elections conducts primary, general, city, school, and special elections in accordance with applicable state law. The board shall canvass elections in accordance with sections 43.49 to 43.51, 43.60 to 43.62, 46.24, 50.13, 50.24 to 50.29, 50.44 to 50.47, 260C.39, 275.25, 277.20, 376.1, 376.7, and 376.9. The board shall prepare and deliver a list of persons nominated in accordance with section 43.55, provide for a recount in accordance with section 50.48, provide for election precincts in accordance with sections 49.3, 49.4, 49.6 to 49.8, and 49.11, pay election costs as provided in section 47.3, participate in election contests as provided in sections 62.1A and 62.9, and perform other election duties required by state law. The board may authorize additional precinct election officials as provided in section 51.1, provide for the use of an optical scan voting system as provided in sections 52.2, 52.3, and 52.8, and exercise other election powers as provided by state law.

[S81, §331.383; 81 Acts, ch 117, §382; 82 Acts, ch 1104, §36]  
2007 Acts, ch 190, §40; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §84

#### POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD RELATING TO COUNTY FINANCES

##### GENERAL FINANCIAL POWERS AND DUTIES

### **331.402 Powers relating to finances — limitations.**

- 1. Not reprinted.
- 2. The board may:
  - a. to e.* Not reprinted.
  - f.* Impose a hotel and motel tax in accordance with chapter 423A.
  - g. to i.* Not reprinted.
- 3. A county may enter into loan agreements to borrow money for any public purpose in accordance with the following terms and procedures:

a. A loan agreement entered into by a county may contain provisions similar to those sometimes found in loan agreements between private parties, including, but not limited to, the issuance of notes to evidence its obligations.

b. A provision of a loan agreement which stipulates that a portion of the payments be applied as interest is subject to chapter 74A. Other laws relating to interest rates do not apply. Chapter 75 is not applicable. A county enterprise is a separate entity under this subsection, whether it is governed by the board or another governing body.

c. The board shall follow substantially the same authorization procedure required for the issuance of general obligation bonds issued for the same purpose to authorize a loan agreement made payable from the debt service fund.

d. The board may authorize a loan agreement which is payable from the general fund if the loan agreement would not cause the total of scheduled annual payments of principal or interest or both principal and interest due from the general fund of the county in any single future fiscal year with respect to all loan agreements in force on the date of the authorization to exceed ten percent of the last certified general fund budget amount in accordance with the following procedures:

(1) The board shall follow substantially the authorization procedures of section 331.443 to authorize a loan agreement for personal property which is payable from the general fund. The board must follow substantially the authorization procedures of section 331.443 to authorize a loan agreement for real property which is payable from the general fund if the principal amount of the loan agreement does not exceed the following limits:

(a) Four hundred thousand dollars in a county having a population of twenty-five thousand or less.

(b) Five hundred thousand dollars in a county having a population of more than twenty-five thousand but not more than fifty thousand.

(c) Six hundred thousand dollars in a county having a population of more than fifty thousand but not more than one hundred thousand.

(d) Eight hundred thousand dollars in a county having a population of more than one hundred thousand but not more than two hundred thousand.

(e) One million dollars in a county having a population of more than two hundred thousand.

(2) The board must follow the following procedures to authorize a loan agreement for real property which is payable from the general fund if the principal amount of the loan agreement exceeds the limits set forth in subparagraph (1):

(a) The board must institute proceedings for entering into a loan agreement payable from the general fund by causing a notice of the meeting to discuss entering into the loan agreement, including a statement of the principal amount and purpose of the loan agreement and the right to petition for an election, to be published as provided in section 331.305 at least ten days prior to the discussion meeting. No sooner than thirty days following the discussion meeting shall the board hold a meeting at which it is proposed to take action to enter into the loan agreement.

(b) If at any time before the end of the thirty-day period after which a meeting may be held to take action to enter into the loan agreement, a petition is filed with the auditor in the manner provided by section 331.306 asking that the question of entering into the loan agreement be submitted to the registered voters of the county, the board shall either by resolution declare the proposal to enter into the loan agreement to have been abandoned or shall direct the county commissioner of elections to call a special election upon the question of entering into the loan agreement. However, for purposes of this subparagraph, the petition shall not require signatures in excess of one thousand persons. The question to be placed on the ballot shall be stated affirmatively in substantially the following manner: Shall the county of ..... enter into a loan agreement in amount of \$..... for the purpose of .....? Notice of the election and its conduct shall be in the manner provided in section 331.442, subsections 2 through 4.

(c) If a petition is not filed or if a petition is filed and the proposition of entering into the loan agreement is approved at an election, the board may proceed and enter into the loan agreement.

*e.* The governing body may authorize a loan agreement payable from the net revenues of a county enterprise or combined county enterprise by following the authorization procedures of section 331.464.

*f.* A loan agreement to which a county is a party or in which a county has a participatory interest is an obligation of a political subdivision of this state for the purpose of chapters 502 and 636, and is a lawful investment for banks, trust companies, building and loan associations, savings and loan associations, investment companies, insurance companies, insurance associations, executors, guardians, trustees, and any other fiduciaries responsible for the investment of funds.

83 Acts, ch 96, §157, 159; 84 Acts, ch 1123, §2; 87 Acts, ch 103, §1; 92 Acts, ch 1138, §2; 95 Acts, ch 67, §53; 2001 Acts, ch 45, §2; 2009 Acts, ch 100, §9, 21

BLANK

COUNTY LEVIES, FUNDS, BUDGETS, AND EXPENDITURES

**331.424 Supplemental levies.**

To the extent that the basic levies are insufficient to meet the county’s needs for the following services, the board may certify supplemental levies as follows:

1. For general county services, an amount sufficient to pay the charges for the following:

- a. and b. Not reprinted.
- c. Elections, and voter registration pursuant to chapter 48A.
- d. to j. Not reprinted.

2. Not reprinted.

83 Acts, ch 123, §8, 209; 84 Acts, ch 1178, §7; 84 Acts, ch 1312, §8; 86 Acts, ch 1211, §20; 90 Acts, ch 1233, §25; 92 Acts, ch 1139, §26; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §59; 94 Acts, ch 1170, §52; 95 Acts, ch 206, §9, 12; 96 Acts, ch 1129, §84; 96 Acts, ch 1219, §102; 97 Acts, ch 35, §22, 25; 2001 Acts, ch 181, §25

**331.425 Additions to levies — special levy election.**

The board may certify an addition to a levy in excess of the amounts otherwise permitted under sections 331.423, 331.424, and 331.426 if the proposition to certify an addition to a levy has been submitted at a special levy election and received a favorable majority of the votes cast on the proposition. A special levy election is subject to the following:

1. The election shall be held only if the board gives notice to the county commissioner of elections, not later than February 15, that the election is to be held.

2. The election shall be held on the first Tuesday in March and be conducted by the county commissioner of elections in accordance with the law.

3. The proposition to be submitted shall be substantially in the following form:

“Vote for only one of the following:

Shall the county of ..... levy an additional tax at a rate of \$..... each year for ..... years beginning next July 1 in excess of the statutory limits otherwise applicable for the (general county services or rural county services) fund?

or

The county of ..... shall continue the (general county services or rural county services fund) under the maximum rate of \$.....”

4. The canvass shall be held beginning at one o’clock on the second day which is not a holiday following the special levy election.

5. Notice of the proposed special levy election shall be published at least twice in a newspaper as specified in section 331.305 prior to the date of the special levy election. The first notice shall appear as early as practicable after the board has decided to seek a special levy.

83 Acts, ch 123, §9, 209; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §85

**331.427 General fund.**

1. and 2. Not reprinted.
3. The board may make appropriations from the general fund for general county services, including but not limited to the following:
  - a. and b. Not reprinted.
  - c. Purchase of voting systems and equipment under chapter 52.
  - d. to m. Not reprinted.
4. Not reprinted.

83 Acts, ch 123, §11, 209; 84 Acts, ch 1107, §1; 84 Acts, ch 1206, §1; 85 Acts, ch 195, §40; 85 Acts, ch 201, §2; 89 Acts, ch 83, §48; 90 Acts, ch 1230, §90; 90 Acts, ch 1236, §47; 91 Acts, ch 191, §8; 92 Acts, ch 1139, §27; 94 Acts, ch 1074, §3; 95 Acts, ch 216, §37; 97 Acts, ch 158, §2; 2000 Acts, ch 1090, §2, 6; 2001 Acts, ch 155, §2, 9–11; 2003 Acts, ch 18, §3; 2003 Acts, ch 108, §67; 2003 Acts, ch 178, §3; 2004 Acts, ch 1049, §191; 2004 Acts, ch 1132, §85; 2004 Acts, ch 1175, §394; 2005 Acts, ch 140, §17; 2007 Acts, ch 174, §92; 2007 Acts, ch 185, §2; 2008 Acts, ch 1084, §14; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §86

## GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS

**331.441 Definitions.**

1. As used in this part, the use of the conjunctive “and” includes the disjunctive “or” and the use of the disjunctive “or” includes the conjunctive “and”, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

2. As used in this part, unless the context otherwise requires:

a. “*General obligation bond*” means a negotiable bond issued by a county and payable from the levy of ad valorem taxes on all taxable property within the county through its debt service fund which is required to be established by section 331.430.

b. “*Essential county purpose*” means any of the following:

(1) An optical scan voting system.

(2) Bridges on highways or parts of highways which are located along the corporate limits of cities and are partly within and partly without the limits and are in whole or in part secondary roads.

(3) Sanitary disposal projects as defined in section 455B.301.

(4) Works and facilities useful for the collection, treatment, and disposal of sewage and industrial waste in a sanitary manner, for the collection and disposal of solid waste, and for the collection and disposal of surface waters and streams, including the planning, acquisition, leasing, construction, reconstruction, extension, remodeling, improvement, repair, equipping, maintenance, and operation of the works and facilities.

(5) Public buildings, including the site or grounds of, and the erection, equipment, remodeling, or reconstruction of, and additions or extensions to the buildings, and including the provision and maintenance of juvenile detention or shelter care facilities, when the cost does not exceed the following limits:

(a) Six hundred thousand dollars in a county having a population of twenty-five thousand or less.

(b) Seven hundred fifty thousand dollars in a county having a population of more than twenty-five thousand but not more than fifty thousand.

(c) Nine hundred thousand dollars in a county having a population of more than fifty thousand but not more than one hundred thousand.

(d) One million two hundred thousand dollars in a county having a population of more than one hundred thousand but not more than two hundred thousand.

(e) One million five hundred thousand dollars in a county having a population of more than two hundred thousand.

(6) Funding or refunding outstanding indebtedness if the outstanding indebtedness exceeds five thousand dollars on the first day of January, April, June, or September in any year. However, a county shall not levy taxes to repay refunding bonds for bridges on property within cities.

(7) Enlargement and improvement of a county hospital acquired and operated under chapter 347A, subject to a maximum of two percent of the assessed value of the taxable property in the county. However, notice of the proposed bond issue shall be published once each week for two consecutive weeks and if, within twenty days following the date of the first publication, a petition requesting an election on the proposal and signed by eligible electors of the county equal in number to at least twenty percent of the votes cast at the preceding election for governor is filed with the county auditor, the proposal is subject to the election requirements in section 331.442, subsections 2, 3, and 4, for general county purpose bonds.

(8) The provision of insurance, or funding a self-insurance program or local government risk pool, including but not limited to the investigation and defense of claims, the payment of claims, and the administration and management of such self-insurance program or local government risk pool.

(9) The acquisition, restoration, or demolition of abandoned, dilapidated, or dangerous buildings, structures or properties or the abatement of a nuisance.

(10) The establishment or funding of programs to provide for or assist in providing for the acquisition, restoration, or demolition of housing, as part of a municipal housing project under chapter 403 or otherwise, or for other purposes as may be authorized under chapter 403A.

(11) The acquiring, developing, and improving of a geographic computer data base system suitable for automated mapping and facilities management.

(12) Funding the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, improvement, repair, or equipping of waterworks, water mains and extensions, ponds, reservoirs, capacity, wells, dams, pumping installations, real and personal property, or other facilities available or used for the storage, transportation, or utilization of water.

(a) The county board of supervisors may on its own motion or upon a written petition of a water supplier established under chapter 357A or 504 direct the county auditor to establish a special service area tax district for the purpose of issuing general obligation bonds. The special service area tax district shall include only unincorporated portions of the county and shall be drawn according to engineering recommendations provided by the water supplier or the county engineer and, in addition, shall be drawn in order that an election provided for in subparagraph division (b) can be administered. The county's debt service tax levy for the county general obligation bonds issued for the purposes set out in this subparagraph shall be levied only against taxable property within the county which is included within the boundaries of the special service area tax district. An owner of property not included within the boundaries of the special service area tax district may petition the board of supervisors to be included in the special service area tax district subsequent to its establishment.

(b) General obligation bonds for the purposes described in this subparagraph are subject to an election held in the manner provided in section 331.442, subsections 1 through 4, if not later than fifteen days following the action by the county board of supervisors, eligible electors file a petition with the county commissioner of elections asking that the question of issuing the bonds be submitted to the registered voters of the special service area tax district. The petition must be signed by eligible electors equal in number to at least five percent of the registered voters residing in the special service area tax district. If the petition is duly filed within the fifteen days, the board of supervisors shall

either adopt a resolution declaring that the proposal to issue the bonds is abandoned, or direct the county commissioner of elections to call a special election within a special service area tax district upon the question of issuing the bonds.

(13) The acquisition, pursuant to a chapter 28E agreement, of a city convention center or veterans memorial auditorium, including the renovation, remodeling, reconstruction, expansion, improvement, or equipping of such a center or auditorium, provided that debt service funds shall not be derived from the division of taxes under section 403.19.

(14) The aiding of the planning, undertaking, and carrying out of urban renewal projects under the authority of chapter 403 and for the purposes set out in section 403.12. However, bonds issued for this purpose are subject to the right of petition for an election as provided in section 331.442, subsection 5, without limitation on the amount of the bond issue or the population of the county, and the board shall include notice of the right of petition in the notice of proposed action required under section 331.443, subsection 2.

(15) The establishment, construction, reconstruction, repair, equipping, remodeling, extension, maintenance, and operation of works, vehicles, and facilities of a regional transit district.

(16) Capital projects for the construction, reconstruction, improvement, repair, or equipping of bridges, roads, and culverts if such capital projects assist in economic development which creates jobs and wealth, if such capital projects relate to damage caused by a disaster as defined in section 29C.2, or if such capital projects are designed to prevent or mitigate future disasters as defined in section 29C.2.

(17) Peace officer communication equipment and other emergency services communication equipment and systems.

(18) The remediation, restoration, repair, cleanup, replacement, and improvement of property, buildings, equipment, and public facilities that have been damaged by a disaster as defined in section 29C.2 and that are located in an area that the governor has proclaimed a disaster emergency or the president of the United States has declared a major disaster. Bonds issued pursuant to section 331.443 for the purposes specified in this subparagraph shall be issued not later than ten years after the governor has proclaimed a disaster emergency or the president of the United States has declared a major disaster, whichever is later.

(19) The reimbursement of the county's general fund or other funds of the county for expenditures made related to remediation, restoration, repair, and cleanup of damage caused by a disaster as defined in section 29C.2, if the damage is located in an area that the governor has proclaimed a disaster emergency or the president of the United States has declared a major disaster. Bonds issued pursuant to section 331.443 for the purposes specified in this subparagraph shall be issued not later than ten years after the governor has proclaimed a disaster emergency or the president of the United States has declared a major disaster, whichever is later.

*c. "General county purpose" means any of the following:*

(1) A memorial building or monument to commemorate the service rendered by members of the armed services of the United States, including the acquisition of ground and the purchase, erection, construction, reconstruction, and equipment of the building or monument, to be managed by a commission as provided in chapter 37.

(2) Acquisition and development of land for a public museum, park, parkway, preserve, playground, or other recreation or conservation purpose to be managed by the county conservation board. The board may submit a proposition under this subparagraph only upon receipt of a petition from the county conservation board asking that bonds be issued for a specified amount.

(3) The building and maintenance of a bridge over state boundary line streams. The board shall submit a proposition under this subparagraph to an election upon receipt of a petition which is valid under section 331.306.

(4) Contributions of money to the state department of transportation to help finance the construction of toll bridges across navigable rivers constituting boundaries between the county and an adjoining state.

(5) An airport, including establishment, acquisition, equipment, improvement, or enlargement of the airport.

(6) A joint city-county building, established by contract between the county and its county seat city, including purchase, acquisition, ownership, and equipment of the county portion of the building.

(7) A county health center as defined in section 346A.1, including additions and facilities for the center and including the acquisition, reconstruction, completion, equipment, improvement, repair, and remodeling of the center, additions, or facilities. Bonds for the purpose specified in this subparagraph are exempt from taxation by the state and the interest on the bonds is exempt from state income taxes.

(8) A county public hospital, including procuring a site and the erection, equipment, and maintenance of the hospital, and additions to the hospital, subject to the levy limits in section 347.7.

(9) Public buildings, including the site or grounds of, the erection, equipment, remodeling, or reconstruction of, and additions or extensions to the buildings, and including the provision and maintenance of juvenile detention or shelter care facilities, when the cost exceeds the limits stated in subsection 2, paragraph "b", subparagraph (5).

(10) The undertaking of any project jointly or in cooperation with any other governmental body which, if undertaken by the county alone, would be for a general county purpose, including the joint purchase, acquisition, construction, ownership, or control of any real or personal property.

(11) Any other purpose which is necessary for the operation of the county or the health and welfare of its citizens.

3. The "cost" of a project for an essential county purpose or general county purpose includes construction contracts and the cost of engineering, architectural, technical, and legal services, preliminary reports, property valuations, estimates, plans, specifications, notices, acquisition of real and personal property, consequential damages or costs, easements, rights-of-way, supervision, inspection, testing, publications, printing and sale of bonds, interest during the period or estimated period of construction and for twelve months thereafter or for twelve months after the acquisition date, and provisions for contingencies.

1, 2a. [S81, §331.441(1, 2a); 81 Acts, ch 117, §440]

2b(1). [S13, §1137-a14; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §906; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §52.3; S81, §331.441(2b); 81 Acts, ch 117, §440]

b(2). [SS15, §1527-s3; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4666; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §309.73; S81, §331.441(2b); 81 Acts, ch 117, §440]

b(3). [C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §346.23; S81, §331.441(2b); 81 Acts, ch 117, §440]

b(4). [C79, 81, §332.52; S81, §331.441(2b); 81 Acts, ch 117, §440]

b(5). [C51, §114, 117; R60, §250, 253; C73, §309, 312; C97, §443, 448; SS15, §448; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5263, 5268; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, §345.4, 345.9; C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, §232.22, 345.4, 345.9; C79, 81, §232.142, 345.4, 345.9; S81, §331.441(2b); 81 Acts, ch 117, §440]

b(6). [C73, §289; C97, S13, §403; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5275, 5276; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §346.1, 346.2; S81, §331.441(2b); 81 Acts, ch 117, §440]

b(7). [C62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §347A.7; S81, §331.441(2b); 81 Acts, ch 117, §440]

- c(1). [C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §488; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §37.6; S81, §331.441(2c); 81 Acts, ch 117, §440; 82 Acts, ch 1104, §45]
  - c(2). [C62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §111A.6; S81, §331.441(2c); 81 Acts, ch 117, §440]
  - c(3). [S13, §424-b; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4682; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §309.89; S81, §331.441(2b); 81 Acts, ch 117, §440; 82 Acts, ch 1104, §44, 46]
  - c(4). [C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §313A.35; S81, §331.441(2c); 81 Acts, ch 117, §440]
  - c(5). [C31, 35, §5903-c6, -c8; C39, §5903.06, 5903.08; C46, 50, §330.8, 330.10, 330.16; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §330.7, 330.10, 330.16; S81, §331.441(2c); 81 Acts, ch 117, §440]
  - c(6). [C50, §368.58, 368.59; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §368.20, 368.21; C75, 77, 79, 81, §346.26; S81, §331.441(2c); 81 Acts, ch 117, §440]
  - c(7). [C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §346A.3–346A.5; S81, §331.441(2c); 81 Acts, ch 117, §440]
  - c(8). [S13, §409-a, -b, -f; C24, 27, 31, 35, §5348–5351, 5354; C39, §5348, 5348.1, 5349–5351, 5354; C46, 50, 54, 58, §347.1–347.5, 347.8; C62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §37.27, 347.1–347.5, 347.8; S81, §331.441(2c); 81 Acts, ch 117, §440]
  - c(9). [C51, §114, 117; R60, §250, 253; C73, §309, 312; C97, §443, 448; SS15, §448; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5263, 5268; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, §345.4, 345.9; C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, §232.22, 345.4, 345.9; C79, 81, §232.142, 345.4, 345.9; S81, §331.441(2c); 81 Acts, ch 117, §440]
  - c(10, 11). [S81, §331.441(2c); 81 Acts, ch 117, §440]
  - 3. [S81, §331.441(3); 81 Acts, ch 117, §440]
- 83 Acts, ch 123, §136–139, 209; 86 Acts, ch 1211, §21; 87 Acts, ch 103, §2–4; 89 Acts, ch 189, §2; 90 Acts, ch 1255, §18; 92 Acts, ch 1102, §1; 92 Acts, ch 1138, §3; 93 Acts, ch 180, §76; 94 Acts, ch 1014, §1; 94 Acts, ch 1182, §5; 95 Acts, ch 67, §53; 96 Acts, ch 1204, §35; 2000 Acts, ch 1188, §1; 2001 Acts, ch 56, §22, 23; 2004 Acts, ch 1049, §191; 2004 Acts, ch 1072, §6; 2004 Acts, ch 1175, §393; 2007 Acts, ch 109, §1, 2; 2007 Acts, ch 190, §41; 2008 Acts, ch 1013, §1, 3; 2009 Acts, ch 41, §263; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §87; 2009 Acts, ch 100, §10, 21; 2009 Acts, ch 173, §33, 36

**331.442 General county purpose bonds.**

1. A county which proposes to carry out any general county purpose within or without its boundaries, and to contract indebtedness and issue general obligation bonds to provide funds to pay all or any part of the costs of a project, shall do so in accordance with this part.

2. a. The board shall publish notice of the proposal to issue the bonds, including a statement of the amount and purpose of the bonds and a statement of the estimated cost of the project for which the bonds are to be issued. The notice shall be published as provided in section 331.305 with the minutes of the meeting at which the board adopts a resolution to call a county special election to vote upon the question of issuing the bonds. The cost of the project, as published in the notice pursuant to this paragraph, is an estimate and is not intended to be binding on the board in later proceedings related to the project.

b. Before the board may institute proceedings for the issuance of bonds for a general county purpose, it shall call a county special election to vote upon the question of issuing the bonds. At the election the proposition shall be submitted in the following form:

Shall the county of ....., state of Iowa, issue its general obligation bonds in an amount not exceeding the amount of \$..... for the purpose of .....

3. Notice of the election shall be given by publication as specified in section 331.305. At the election the ballot used for the submission of the proposition shall be in substantially the form for submitting special questions at general elections.

4. The proposition of issuing bonds for a general county purpose is not carried or adopted unless the vote in favor of the proposition is equal to at least sixty percent of the total vote cast for and against the proposition at the election. If the proposition of issuing the general county purpose bonds is approved by the voters, the board may proceed with the issuance of the bonds.

5. *a.* Notwithstanding subsection 2, a board, in lieu of calling an election, may institute proceedings for the issuance of bonds for a general county purpose by causing a notice of the proposal to issue the bonds, including a statement of the amount and purpose of the bonds, and the right to petition for an election, to be published as provided in section 331.305 at least ten days prior to the meeting at which it is proposed to take action for the issuance of the bonds subject to the following limitations:

(1) In counties having a population of twenty thousand or less, in an amount of not more than one hundred thousand dollars.

(2) In counties having a population of over twenty thousand and not over fifty thousand, in an amount of not more than two hundred thousand dollars.

(3) In counties having a population of over fifty thousand, in an amount of not more than three hundred thousand dollars.

*b.* If at any time before the date fixed for taking action for the issuance of the bonds, a petition is filed with the auditor in the manner provided by section 331.306 asking that the question of issuing the bonds be submitted to the registered voters of the county, the board shall either by resolution declare the proposal to issue the bonds to have been abandoned or shall direct the county commissioner of elections to call a special election upon the question of issuing the bonds. Notice of the election and its conduct shall be in the manner provided in subsections 2, 3 and 4.

*c.* If no petition is filed, or if a petition is filed and the proposition of issuing the bonds is approved at an election, the board may proceed with the authorization and issuance of the bonds.

[C31, 35, §5903-c5; C39, §5903.05; C46, 50, §330.7; C54, 58, §330.7; C62, 66, §111A.6, 330.7; C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §111A.6, 313A.35, 330.7, 346A.3; S81, §331.442; 81 Acts, ch 117, §441; 82 Acts, ch 1104, §47]

95 Acts, ch 67, §53; 2007 Acts, ch 109, §3; 2009 Acts, ch 2, §1, 3, 4

2009 amendment to subsection 2 applies retroactively to validate projects authorized by ballot proposition that approved the issuance of county general obligation bonds at elections held prior to February 16, 2009, if, on February 16, 2009, the cost of the project does not exceed one hundred ten percent of the project cost stated on the ballot; board of supervisors action to adopt resolution stating compliance; 2009 Acts, ch 2, §3, 4

### **331.445 Categories for general obligation bonds.**

The board may issue general obligation bonds pursuant to a resolution adopted at a regular or special meeting by a majority of the total number of supervisors. Each subparagraph of section 331.441, subsection 2, paragraphs “*b*” and “*c*”, describes a separate category. Separate categories of essential county purposes and of general county purposes may be incorporated in a single notice of intention to institute proceedings for the issuance of bonds, or separate categories may be incorporated in separate notices, and after an opportunity has been provided for filing objections, or after a favorable election has been held, if required, the board may include in a single resolution and sell as a single issue of bonds, any number or combination of essential county purposes or general county purposes. If an essential county purpose is combined with a general county purpose in a single notice of intention to institute proceedings to

issue bonds, then the entire issue is subject to the election requirement in section 331.442.

[S81, §331.445; 81 Acts, ch 117, §444]

**331.447 Taxes to pay bonds.**

1. Taxes for the payment of general obligation bonds shall be levied in accordance with chapter 76, and the bonds are payable from the levy of unlimited ad valorem taxes on all the taxable property within the county through its debt service fund required by section 331.430 except that:

a. The amount estimated and certified to apply on principal and interest for any one year shall not exceed the maximum rate of tax, if any, provided by this division for the purpose for which the bonds were issued. If general obligation bonds are issued for different categories, as provided in section 331.445, the maximum rate of levies, if any, for each purpose shall apply separately to that portion of the bond issue for that category and the resolution authorizing the bond issue shall clearly set forth the annual debt service requirements with respect to each purpose in sufficient detail to indicate compliance with the rate of tax levy, if any.

b. The amount estimated and certified to apply on principal and interest for any one year may only exceed the statutory rate of levy limit, if any, by the amount that the registered voters of the county have approved at a special election, which may be held at the same time as the general election and may be included in the proposition authorizing the issuance of bonds, if an election on the proposition is necessary, or may be submitted as a separate proposition at the same election or at a different election. Notice of the election shall be given as specified in section 331.305.

(1) If the proposition includes issuing bonds and increasing the levy limit, it shall be in substantially the following form:

Shall the county of ....., state of Iowa, be authorized to ..... (here state purpose of project) and issue its general obligation bonds in an amount not exceeding the amount of \$..... for that purpose, and be authorized to levy annually a tax not exceeding ..... dollars and ..... cents per thousand dollars of the assessed value of the taxable property within the county to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds?

(2) If the proposition includes only increasing the levy limit it shall be in substantially the following form:

Shall the county of ....., state of Iowa, be authorized to levy annually a tax not exceeding ..... dollars and ..... cents per thousand dollars of the assessed value of the taxable property within the county to pay principal and interest on the bonded indebtedness of the county for the purpose of .....?

2. A statutory or voted tax levy limitation does not limit the source of payment of bonds and interest, but only restricts the amount of bonds which may be issued.

3. For the sole purpose of computing the amount of bonds which may be issued as the result of the application of a statutory or voted tax levy limitation, all interest on the bonds in excess of that accruing in the first twelve months may be excluded from the first annual levy of taxes, so that the need for including more than one year's interest on the first annual levy of taxes to pay the bonds and interest does not operate to further restrict the amount of bonds which may be issued, and in certifying the annual levies, the first annual levy of taxes shall be sufficient to pay all principal of and interest on the bonds becoming due prior to the next succeeding annual levy and the full amount of the annual levy shall be entered for collection as provided in chapter 76.

[C66, §309.73; C71, 73, §309.73, 346A.3; C75, 77, 79, 81, §309.73, 330.16, 346A.3; S81, §331.447; 81 Acts, ch 117, §446; 82 Acts, ch 1104, §48]

83 Acts, ch 123, §140, 209; 95 Acts, ch 67, §53; 2009 Acts, ch 2, §2, 4

2009 amendment to subsection 1, paragraph b, applies retroactively to validate projects authorized by ballot proposition that approved the issuance of county general obligation bonds at elections held prior to February 16, 2009, if, on February 16, 2009, the cost of the project does not exceed one hundred ten percent of the project cost stated on the ballot; board of supervisors action to adopt resolution stating compliance; 2009 Acts, ch 2, §3, 4

BLANK

b. The title to all property of a county enterprise or combined county enterprise shall be held in the name of the county, but the commission has all the powers and authorities of the board with respect to the acquisition by purchase, condemnation or otherwise, lease, sale or other disposition of the property, and the management, control and operation of the property, subject to the requirements, terms, covenants, conditions and provisions of any resolutions authorizing the issuance of revenue bonds, pledge orders, or other obligations which are payable from the revenues of the county enterprise or combined county enterprise, and which are then outstanding.

c. A commission shall make to the board a detailed annual report, including a complete financial statement.

d. Immediately following a regular or special meeting of a commission, the secretary of the commission shall prepare a condensed statement of the proceedings of the commission and cause the statement to be published as provided in section 331.305. The statement shall include a list of all claims allowed, showing the name of the person or firm making the claim, the reason for the claim, and the amount of the claim. If the reason for the claims is the same, two or more claims made by the same vendor, supplier, or claimant may be consolidated if the number of claims consolidated and the total consolidated claim amount are listed in the statement. However, the commission shall provide at its office upon request an unconsolidated list of all claims allowed. Salary claims must show the gross amount of the claim except that salaries paid to persons regularly employed by the commission, for services regularly performed by the persons shall be published once annually showing the gross amount of the salary. In counties having more than one hundred fifty thousand population the commission shall each month prepare in pamphlet form the statement required in this paragraph for the preceding month, and furnish copies to the public library, the daily and official newspapers of the county, the auditor, and to persons who apply at the office of the secretary, and the pamphlet shall constitute publication as required. Failure by the secretary to make publication is a simple misdemeanor.

7. A commission shall control tax revenues allocated to the county enterprise or combined county enterprise it administers and all moneys derived from the operation of the county enterprise or combined county enterprise, the sale of its property, interest on investments, or from any other source related to the county enterprise or combined county enterprise.

8. All moneys received by the commission shall be held by the county treasurer in a separate fund, with a separate account or accounts for each county enterprise or combined county enterprise. Moneys may be paid out of each account only at the direction of the appropriate commission.

9. A commission is subject to section 331.341, subsections 1, 2, 4 and 5, and section 331.342, in contracting for public improvements.

[S81, §331.471; 81 Acts, ch 117, §470]

83 Acts, ch 42, §1; 2006 Acts, ch 1018, §3

## COUNTY OFFICERS

## COUNTY AUDITOR

**331.501 Office of county auditor.**

1. The office of auditor is an elective office except that if a vacancy occurs in the office, a successor shall be appointed to the unexpired term as provided in chapter 69.

2. A person elected or appointed to the office of auditor shall qualify by taking the oath of office as provided in section 63.10 and giving bond as provided in section 64.8.

3. The term of office of the auditor is four years.

[C73, §589; C97, S13, §1072; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §520; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §39.17; S81, §331.501; 81 Acts, ch 117, §500]

**331.502 General duties.**

The auditor shall:

1. to 16. Not reprinted.

17. Make available to schools, voting equipment or sample ballots for instructional purposes as provided in section 280.9A.

18. to 43. Not reprinted.

**9–49.** [S81, §331.502(9–52); 81 Acts, ch 117, §501; 82 Acts, ch 1104, §51, 52]

83 Acts, ch 101, §77; 83 Acts, ch 185, §29, 62; 83 Acts, ch 186, §10080–10083, 10201; 86 Acts, ch 1108, §2, 3; 86 Acts, ch 1155, §4; 87 Acts, ch 115, §53; 87 Acts, ch 227, §27; 88 Acts, ch 1158, §69; 88 Acts, ch 1262, §7; 93 Acts, ch 148, §1; 94 Acts, ch 1173, §21, 22; 96 Acts, ch 1129, §113; 98 Acts, ch 1107, §9; 2000 Acts, ch 1117, §21; 2003 Acts, ch 35, §42, 49; 2003 Acts, ch 145, §251; 2005 Acts, ch 128, §2; 2005 Acts, ch 167, §54, 66; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §88

**331.505 Duties relating to elections.**

The auditor shall:

1. Serve as county commissioner of elections as provided in chapter 47.

2. Conduct all elections held within the county.

3. Serve as a member of a board to hear and decide objections made to a certification of nomination as provided in section 44.7.

4. Serve as county commissioner of registration as provided in chapter 48A.

5. Serve as clerk of the election contest court as provided in chapter 62.

6. Record the orders of suspension and temporary appointment of county and township officers as provided in section 66.19.

[S81, §331.505; 81 Acts, ch 117, §504]

94 Acts, ch 1169, §60

**331.508 Books and records.**

The auditor shall keep the following books and records:

1. Election book for contested proceedings as provided in section 62.3.

2. to 10. Not reprinted.

[C97, §480; S13, §498; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5246; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §342.2; S81, §331.508; 81 Acts, ch 117, §507]

86 Acts, ch 1001, §19; 94 Acts, ch 1173, §24; 95 Acts, ch 49, §8; 97 Acts, ch 121, §4

**331.510 Reports by the auditor.**

The auditor shall make:

1. A report to the governor of a vacancy, except by resignation, in the office of state representative or senator as provided in section 69.5.

2. A report to the secretary of state of the name, office, and term of office of each appointed or elected county officer within ten days of the officer's election or appointment and qualification.

3. and 4. Not reprinted.

[R60, §291; C73, §324; C97, §474; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5150; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, §333.10; C73, 75, 77, §333.10, 442.2; C79, 81, §333.10, 333.16; S81, §331.510; 81 Acts, ch 117, §509]

83 Acts, ch 123, §141, 209; 85 Acts, ch 21, §42; 85 Acts, ch 197, §7; 88 Acts, ch 1134, §72

## COUNTY TREASURER

**331.551 Office of county treasurer.**

1. The office of treasurer is an elective office except that if a vacancy occurs in the office, a successor shall be appointed to the unexpired term as provided in chapter 69.

2. A person elected or appointed to the office of treasurer shall qualify by taking the oath of office as provided in section 63.10 and give bond as provided in section 64.10.

3. The term of office of the treasurer is four years.

[C51, §96, 151, 239; R60, §224, 473; C73, §589; C97, S13, §1072; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §520; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §39.17; S81, §331.551; 81 Acts, ch 117, §550]

**331.552 General duties.**

The treasurer shall:

1. to 7. Not reprinted.

8. Serve on a nomination appeals commission to hear nomination objections filed with the county commissioner of elections as provided in section 44.7.

9. to 36. Not reprinted.

5–15. [S81, §331.552(5–17); 81 Acts, ch 117, §551]

83 Acts, ch 123, §143–146, 209; 83 Acts, ch 185, §31, 32, 62; 83 Acts, ch 186, §10088, 10089, 10201, 10204; 84 Acts, ch 1003, §1; 86 Acts, ch 1001, §20; 86 Acts, ch 1155, §5; 91 Acts, ch 191, §10; 92 Acts, ch 1016, §5; 94 Acts, ch 1173, §26; 95 Acts, ch 57, §4; 96 Acts, ch 1129, §113; 2000 Acts, ch 1084, §2; 2001 Acts, ch 45, §3; 2003 Acts, ch 24, §4; 2003 Acts, ch 145, §252; 2004 Acts, ch 1092, §5; 2005 Acts, ch 167, §55, 66; 2006 Acts, ch 1070, §15, 16, 31; 2008 Acts, ch 1018, §28

**331.557A Duties relating to issuance of driver's licenses.**

The treasurer of any county participating in county issuance of driver's licenses under chapter 321M shall:

1. to 4. Not reprinted.

5. Participate in voter registration according to the terms of chapter 48A, and submit completed voter registration forms to the state registrar of voters.

6. and 7. Not reprinted.

98 Acts, ch 1073, §12; 98 Acts, ch 1143, §21, 26; 2005 Acts, ch 54, §10, 12; 2008 Acts, ch 1018, §29, 31

## COUNTY RECORDER

**331.601 Office of county recorder.**

1. The office of recorder is an elective office except that if a vacancy occurs in the office, a successor shall be appointed to the unexpired term as provided in chapter 69.

2. A person elected or appointed to the office of recorder shall qualify by taking the oath of office as provided in section 63.10 and giving bond as provided in section 64.8.

3. The term of office of the recorder is four years.

4. Not reprinted.

[C51, §96, 239; R60, §224, 473; C73, §589; C97, §1072; S13, §1072; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §520; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §39.17; S81, §331.601; 81 Acts, ch 117, §600]

95 Acts, ch 124, §9, 26

**331.602 General duties.**

The recorder shall:

1. to 5. Not reprinted.

6. Carry out duties as a member of a nomination appeals commission as provided in section 44.7.

7. to 40. Not reprinted.

**6-44.** [S81, §331.602(6-44); 81 Acts, ch 117, §601; 82 Acts, ch 1104, §57]

83 Acts, ch 101, §78; 85 Acts, ch 195, §41; 86 Acts, ch 1091, §1-3; 86 Acts, ch 1108, §4; 86 Acts, ch 1155, §6; 87 Acts, ch 30, §17; 88 Acts, ch 1046, §1; 90 Acts, ch 1081, §1; 90 Acts, ch 1205, §11; 90 Acts, ch 1236, §49; 91 Acts, ch 183, §1; 91 Acts, ch 211, §2; 92 Acts, ch 1073, §6-8; 92 Acts, ch 1163, §83; 94 Acts, ch 1023, §105; 94 Acts, ch 1025, §4; 94 Acts, ch 1055, §1; 95 Acts, ch 124, §10, 26; 95 Acts, ch 160, §1; 96 Acts, ch 1034, §29; 96 Acts, ch 1186, §23; 97 Acts, ch 23, §37; 97 Acts, ch 116, §1; 98 Acts, ch 1199, §2, 27; 98 Acts, ch 1223, §30; 99 Acts, ch 83, §3, 4, 11; 99 Acts, ch 171, §34, 42; 2000 Acts, ch 1085, §2; 2000 Acts, ch 1149, §168, 187; 2001 Acts, ch 44, §4, 5; 2001 Acts, ch 45, §6; 2002 Acts, ch 1017, §4, 8; 2002 Acts, ch 1113, §5; 2003 Acts, ch 5, §1; 2003 Acts, ch 108, §123; 2003 Acts, ch 145, §286; 2004 Acts, ch 1069, §2, 4; 2004 Acts, ch 1101, §39; 2004 Acts, ch 1132, §86; 2005 Acts, ch 138, §10; 2006 Acts, ch 1031, §1; 2009 Acts, ch 27, §4

## COUNTY SHERIFF

**331.651 Office of county sheriff.**

1. The office of sheriff is an elective office. However, if a vacancy occurs in the office, the first deputy shall assume the office after qualifying as provided in this section. The first deputy shall hold the office until a successor is appointed or elected to the unexpired term as provided in chapter 69. If a sheriff is suspended from office, the district court may appoint a sheriff until a temporary appointment is made by the board as provided in section 66.19.

A person elected or appointed sheriff shall meet all the following qualifications:

*a.* Have no felony convictions.

*b.* Be age twenty-one or over at the time of assuming the office of sheriff.

c. Be a certified peace officer recognized by the Iowa law enforcement academy council under chapter 80B or complete the basic training course provided at the Iowa law enforcement academy's central training facility or a location other than the central training facility within one year of taking office. A person shall be deemed to have completed the basic training course if the person meets all course requirements except the physical training requirements.

2. A person elected or appointed to the office of sheriff shall qualify by taking the oath of office as provided in section 63.10 and give bond as provided in section 64.8.

3. The term of office of the sheriff is four years.

[C51, §96, 239; R60, §224, 473; C73, §589; C97, S13, §1072; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §520; C46, §39.17; C50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §39.17, 337.20; S81, §331.651; 81 Acts, ch 117, §650]

94 Acts, ch 1010, §1; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §95, 115

### **331.653 General duties of the sheriff.**

The sheriff shall:

1. to 6. Not reprinted.

7. Carry out duties relating to election contests as provided in sections 57.6, 62.4, and 62.19.

8. to 71. Not reprinted.

5-71. [S81, §331.653(5-71); 81 Acts, ch 117, §652]

83 Acts, ch 101, §79; 83 Acts, ch 186, §10090, 10091, 10201; 85 Acts, ch 67, §41; 86 Acts, ch 1108, §5; 86 Acts, ch 1121, §2; 86 Acts, ch 1155, §7; 86 Acts, ch 1220, §39; 87 Acts, ch 115, §54; 90 Acts, ch 1230, §91; 91 Acts, ch 191, §14; 92 Acts, ch 1139, §28; 94 Acts, ch 1103, §3; 94 Acts, ch 1173, §27; 95 Acts, ch 67, §29; 95 Acts, ch 191, §24; 96 Acts, ch 1111, §1; 96 Acts, ch 1129, §113; 96 Acts, ch 1186, §23; 97 Acts, ch 35, §23, 25; 97 Acts, ch 126, §41, 42; 98 Acts, ch 1090, §68, 84; 2001 Acts, ch 153, §15; 2001 Acts, ch 176, §80; 2003 Acts, ch 145, §286; 2003 Acts, ch 151, §27; 2004 Acts, ch 1084, §3; 2005 Acts, ch 167, §56, 66; 2006 Acts, ch 1034, §2; 2008 Acts, ch 1181, §37; 2009 Acts, ch 133, §126

### **331.661 Multicounty office.**

1. Two or more county boards of supervisors may adopt resolutions proposing to share the services of a county sheriff. The resolutions shall also propose that the question of establishing the office of multicounty sheriff be submitted to the electorate of the counties proposing to share the services of a county sheriff. The proposal is adopted in those counties where a majority of the electors voting approves the proposal.

2. The county sheriff shall be elected by a majority of the votes cast for the office of county sheriff in all of the counties which the county sheriff will serve. The election shall be conducted in accordance with section 47.2, subsection 2.

3. The office of multicounty sheriff is created effective on January 1 of the year following the next general election at which the county sheriff is elected as provided by this section and section 39.17.

91 Acts, ch 189, §1

## COUNTY ATTORNEY

**331.751 Office of county attorney.**

1. The office of county attorney is an elective office except that if a vacancy occurs in the office, a successor shall be appointed to the unexpired term as provided in chapter 69.

2. A person elected or appointed to the office of county attorney shall be a registered voter of the county, be admitted to the practice of law in the courts of this state as provided by law, qualify by taking the oath of office as provided in section 63.10, and give bond as provided in section 64.8. A person is not qualified for the office of county attorney while the person's license to practice law in this or any other state is suspended or revoked.

3. The term of office of the county attorney is four years.

[C51, §96, 239; R60, §224; C97, §1072; S13, §308-b, 1072; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §520, 5179; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §39.17, 336.1; S81, §331.751; 81 Acts, ch 117, §750]

94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

**331.753 Multicounty office.**

1. If two or more counties agree, pursuant to chapter 28E, to share the services of a county attorney, the county attorney shall be elected by a majority of the votes cast for the office of county attorney in all of the counties which the county attorney will serve as provided in the agreement. The election shall be conducted in accordance with section 47.2, subsection 2.

2. The effective date of the agreement shall be January 1 of the year following the next general election at which the county attorney is elected as provided by this section and section 39.17.

[C79, 81, §336.6; S81, §331.753; 81 Acts, ch 117, §753]

**331.756 Duties of the county attorney.**

The county attorney shall:

1. to 13. Not reprinted.

14. Hear and decide objections to a nomination filed with the county election commissioner as provided in section 44.7.

15. Review the report and recommendations of the ethics and campaign disclosure board and proceed to institute the recommended actions or advise the board that prosecution is not merited, as provided in sections 68B.32C and 68B.32D.

16. to 85. Not reprinted.

[C97, SS15, §301; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5180; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §336.2; S81, §331.756; 81 Acts, ch 117, §756; 82 Acts, ch 1021, §10, 12(1), ch 1100, §28, ch 1104, §59]

83 Acts, ch 96, §111, 112, 157, 159; 84 Acts, ch 1163, §2; 84 Acts, ch 1299, §9; 85 Acts, ch 195, §42; 86 Acts, ch 1001, §21; 86 Acts, ch 1112, §11; 86 Acts, ch 1155, §8; 86 Acts, ch 1238, §17; 86 Acts, ch 1245, §1117; 87 Acts, ch 30, §18; 87 Acts, ch 98, §4; 88 Acts, ch 1134, §73; 89 Acts, ch 197, §30; 90 Acts, ch 1165, §17; 92 Acts, ch 1242, §30, 31; 93 Acts, ch 97, §39; 93 Acts, ch 110, §2-4; 93 Acts, ch 142, §12; 93 Acts, ch 163, §32; 94 Acts, ch 1023, §106; 94 Acts, ch 1170, §53; 94 Acts, ch 1173, §29, 30; 95 Acts, ch 49, §9; 95 Acts, ch 143, §9; 95 Acts, ch 169, §3; 96 Acts, ch 1034, §31; 96 Acts, ch 1111, §2; 96 Acts, ch 1129, §113; 96 Acts, ch 1131, §1; 96 Acts, ch 1186, §23; 97 Acts, ch 41, §32; 98 Acts, ch 1090, §69, 84; 98 Acts, ch 1162, §28, 30; 2002 Acts, ch 1119, §159; 2003 Acts, ch 107, §3; 2003 Acts, ch 115, §15, 19; 2003 Acts, ch 145, §286; 2004 Acts, ch 1101, §40; 2005 Acts, ch 167, §57, 66; 2006 Acts, ch 1010, §94; 2006 Acts, ch 1097, §18; 2006 Acts, ch 1115, §33; 2006 Acts, ch 1185, §121; 2007 Acts, ch 10, §175; 2007 Acts, ch 152, §51; 2007 Acts, ch 196, §7; 2007 Acts, ch 215, §219; 2008 Acts, ch 1032, §199; 2008 Acts, ch 1172, §22

## COUNTY HOSPITALS

**347.7 Tax levies.**

1. *a.* If a county hospital is established, the board of supervisors, at the time of levying ordinary taxes, shall levy a tax at the rate voted not to exceed fifty-four cents per thousand dollars of assessed value in any one year for the erection and equipment of the hospital, and also a tax not to exceed twenty-seven cents per thousand dollars of value for the improvement, maintenance, and replacements of the hospital, as certified by the board of hospital trustees. However, in counties having a population of two hundred twenty-five thousand or over, the levy for taxes payable in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2001, and for subsequent fiscal years, for improvements and maintenance of the hospital shall not exceed two dollars and five cents per thousand dollars of assessed value in any one year.

*b.* The proceeds of the taxes constitute the county public hospital fund. The fund is subject to review by the board of supervisors in counties having a population of two hundred twenty-five thousand or over. However, the board of trustees of a county hospital, where funds are available in the county public hospital fund of the county which are unappropriated, may use the unappropriated funds for erecting and equipping hospital buildings and additions to the hospital buildings without authority from the voters of the county.

2. A levy shall not be made for the improvement, maintenance, or replacements of the hospital until the hospital has been constructed, staffed, and receiving patients. If revenue bonds are issued and outstanding under section 331.461, subsection 2, paragraph “*d*”, the board may levy a tax to pay operating and maintenance expenses in lieu of the authority otherwise contained in this section not to exceed twenty-seven cents per thousand dollars of assessed value or not to exceed one dollar and twenty-one and one-half cents per thousand dollars of assessed value for improvements and maintenance of the hospital in counties having a population of two hundred twenty-five thousand or over.

3. In addition to levies otherwise authorized by this section, the board of hospital trustees may certify for levy a tax at the rate, not to exceed twenty-seven cents per thousand dollars of assessed value, necessary to raise the amount budgeted by the board of hospital trustees for support of ambulance service as authorized in section 347.14, subsection 8.

4. *a.* The tax levy authorized by this section for operation and maintenance of the hospital may be available in whole or in part to any county with or without a county hospital organized under this chapter, to be used to enhance rural health services in the county. However, the tax levied may be expended for enhancement of rural health care services only following a local planning process. The Iowa department of public health shall establish guidelines to be followed by counties in implementing the local planning process which shall require legal notice, public hearings, and a referendum in accordance with this subsection prior to the authorization of any new levy or a change in the use of a levy. The notice shall describe the new levy or the change in the use of the levy, indicate the date and location of the hearing, and shall be published at least once each week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper having general circulation in the county. The hearing shall not take place prior to two weeks after the second publication.

*b.* Enhancement of rural health services for which the tax levy may be used includes but is not limited to emergency medical services, health care services

shared with other hospitals, rural health clinics, and support for rural health care practitioners and public health services.

*c.* When alternative use of funds from the tax levy is proposed in a county with a county hospital organized under this chapter, use of the funds shall be agreed upon by the elected board of trustees of the county hospital. When alternative use of funds from the tax levy is proposed in a county without a county hospital organized under this chapter, use of the funds shall be agreed upon by the board of supervisors and any publicly elected hospital board of trustees within the county prior to submission of the question to the voters.

*d.* Moneys raised from a tax levied in accordance with this subsection for the purpose of enhancing rural health services in a county without a county hospital shall be designated and administered by the board of supervisors in a manner consistent with the purposes of the levy.

[S13, §409-b, -j; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5353; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, S81, §347.7; 81 Acts, ch 117, §1061]

85 Acts, ch 185, §2; 89 Acts, ch 304, §704; 95 Acts, ch 159, §1, 2; 2001 Acts, ch 75, §1, 2; 2009 Acts, ch 110, §5; 2009 Acts, ch 179, §38

### **347.9 Trustees — appointment — terms of office.**

When it has been determined by the voters of a county to establish a county public hospital, the board shall appoint seven trustees chosen from among the resident citizens of the county with reference to their fitness for office, and not more than four of the trustees shall be residents of the city at which the hospital is located. The trustees shall hold office until the following general election, at which time their successors shall be elected, two for a term of two years, two for four years, and three for six years, and they shall determine by lot their respective terms, and thereafter their successors shall be elected for regular terms of six years each.

[S13, §409-c; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5355; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §347.9]

86 Acts, ch 1200, §3; 99 Acts, ch 36, §3; 2001 Acts, ch 65, §1; 2009 Acts, ch 110, §6

### **347.9A Trustee eligibility — conflict of interest.**

1. The following persons shall not be eligible to serve as a trustee for a county public hospital:

*a.* A person or spouse of a person with medical or special staff privileges in the county public hospital.

*b.* A person or spouse of a person who receives direct compensation in an amount greater than one thousand five hundred dollars in a calendar year from the county public hospital.

2. The transactions of a hospital trustee or a hospital trustee's spouse shall be limited as follows:

*a.* A conflict of interest transaction is a transaction with the hospital in which a hospital trustee or a hospital trustee's spouse has a direct interest of less than or equal to one thousand five hundred dollars or indirect interest in any amount. A conflict of interest transaction is not voidable on the basis of the conflict of interest if all of the following are true:

(1) The material facts of the transaction and the interest of the trustee or the trustee's spouse were disclosed or known to the board of hospital trustees.

(2) The board of hospital trustees authorized, approved, or ratified the transaction. A conflict of interest transaction is authorized, approved, or ratified if it receives the affirmative vote of a majority of the disinterested trustees at a meeting where a quorum is present and where three or more trustees are disinterested in the conflict of interest transaction.

(3) The transaction was fair to the hospital at the time of the transaction.

*b.* For the purposes of this section, a trustee has an indirect interest in a transaction if either of the following is true:

(1) Another entity in which the trustee or the trustee's spouse has a material interest or in which the trustee or the trustee's spouse is a general partner is party to the transaction.

(2) Another entity of which the trustee or the trustee's spouse is a director, officer, or trustee is a party to the transaction.

3. This section does not prohibit a licensed health care practitioner from serving as a hospital trustee if the practitioner's sole use of the county hospital is to provide health care service to an individual with mental retardation as defined in section 222.2.

2009 Acts, ch 110, §7

### **347.10 Vacancies.**

Vacancies on the board of trustees may, until the next general election, be filled by appointment by the remaining members of the board of trustees or, if fewer than four trustees remain on the board, by the board of supervisors for the period until the vacancies are filled by election. An appointment made under this section shall be for the unexpired balance of the term of the preceding trustee. If a board member is absent for four consecutive regular board meetings, without prior excuse, the member's position shall be declared vacant and filled as set out in this section.

[S13, §409-e; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5356; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §347.10]

94 Acts, ch 1180, §49; 2009 Acts, ch 110, §8

### **347.14 Board of trustees — powers.**

The board of trustees may:

1. to 8. Not reprinted.

9. *a.* Submit to the voters at an election held on a date specified in section 39.2, subsection 4, paragraph "a", a proposition to sell or lease a county public hospital for use as a private hospital or as a merged area hospital under chapter 145A or to sell or lease a county hospital in conjunction with the establishment of a merged area hospital. The authorization of the board of hospital trustees submitting the proposition may, but is not required to, contain conditions which provide for maintaining hospital care within the county, for the retention of county public hospital employees and staff, and for the continuation of the board of trustees for the purpose of carrying out provisions of contracts. Proceeds from the sale or lease of the county hospital or other assets of the board of trustees shall not be used for the prepayment of health care services for residents of the county with the purchaser or lessee of the county hospital or to underwrite the sale or lease of the county hospital.

*b.* The proposition submitted to the voters of the county shall not be set forth at length, but it shall be in substantially the following form:

"Shall the board of hospital trustees of ..... county, state of Iowa, be authorized to ..... (state authorization which may exclude the conditions) in accordance with the terms of authorization approved at the meeting of .... (cite date) of the board of hospital trustees?"

c. If the proposition is approved by a majority of the total votes cast for and against the proposition at the election, the board of hospital trustees shall proceed to carry out the authorization granted.

10. Not reprinted.

[S13, §409-d, -k, -o, -q; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5360; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, S81, §347.14; 81 Acts, ch 78, §20, 47]

85 Acts, ch 185, §4; 91 Acts, ch 160, §11; 99 Acts, ch 36, §7, 8; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §58, 71; 2009 Acts, ch 110, §12

**347.23 City hospital changed to county hospital.**

1. Any hospital organized and existing as a city hospital may become a county hospital organized and managed as provided for in this chapter, upon a proposition for such purpose being submitted to and approved by a majority of the electors of both the city in which such hospital is located and of the county under whose management it is proposed that such hospital be placed. The proposition shall be placed upon the ballot by the board of supervisors when requested by a petition signed by eligible electors of the county equal in number to five percent of the votes cast for president of the United States or governor, as the case may be, at the last general election. The proposition shall be submitted at an election held on a date specified in section 39.2, subsection 4, paragraph “a”. Upon the approval of the proposition the hospital, its assets and liabilities, will become the property of the county and this chapter will govern its future management.

2. The question shall be submitted in substantially the following form:

“Shall the municipal hospital of ....., Iowa, be transferred to and become the property of, and be managed by the county of ....., Iowa?”

3. For the purpose of computing whether or not said proposition is carried, the votes of the residents of the city in which said hospital is located shall be counted both for the purpose of ascertaining whether or not the proposition is carried within the city and also for the purpose of ascertaining whether or not the proposition is carried within the county.

[C62, 66, 71, 73, §347.23, 380.12; C75, 77, 79, 81, §347.23]

2001 Acts, ch 56, §27; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §59, 71

**347.23A Memorial hospital or county hospital payable from revenue bonds changed to county hospital.**

1. A hospital established as a memorial hospital under chapter 37 or a county hospital supported by revenue bonds and organized under chapter 347A may become, in accordance with the provisions of this section, a county hospital organized and managed as provided for in this chapter. If the hospital is established by a city as a memorial hospital, the city must be located in the county which will own and manage the hospital. A proposition for the change must be submitted to and approved by a majority of the electors of the county which will own and manage the hospital as provided for in this chapter. In addition, if the hospital is a memorial hospital organized by a city under chapter 37, the proposition must also be approved by a majority of the electors of that city. The proposition shall be submitted to the electors at an election called by the county board of supervisors and held on a date specified in section 39.2, subsection 4, paragraph “a”.

2. The proposition shall be placed upon the ballot by the board of supervisors if requested by the hospital’s board of trustees or governing commission and the request is endorsed by a petition for this purpose signed by eligible electors of the county equal in number to five percent of the votes cast for president of the United States or governor, as the case may be, at the last general election. Upon the approval of the proposition the hospital, its assets and liabilities, shall become the property of the county and this chapter shall govern its future management.

a. The question for a memorial hospital established by a city under chapter 37 shall be submitted in substantially the following form: “Shall the ..... hospital of ....., Iowa, be transferred to and become the property of, and be managed by the county of ....., Iowa, under provision of chapter 347 of the Code of Iowa?”

b. The question for a memorial hospital established by a county under chapter 37 or a county hospital supported by revenue bonds and organized under chapter 347A shall be submitted in substantially the following form: “Shall the ..... hospital of ....., Iowa, organized and governed under chapter ..... of the Code of Iowa be changed to be established and governed under chapter 347 of the Code of Iowa?”

3. For the purpose of computing whether or not the proposition is carried, if the hospital is a memorial hospital established by a city under the provisions of chapter 37, the votes of the residents of that city shall be counted both for the purpose of ascertaining whether or not the proposition is carried within the city and also for the purpose of ascertaining whether or not the proposition is carried within the county.

94 Acts, ch 1135, §2; 2001 Acts, ch 56, §28; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §60, 71

**347.25 Election of trustees.**

The election of hospital trustees whose offices are established by this chapter or chapter 145A or 347A shall take place at the general election on ballots which shall not reflect a nominee’s political affiliation. Nomination shall be made by petition in accordance with chapter 45. The petition form shall be furnished by the county commissioner of elections, signed by fifty eligible electors of the county, and shall be filed with the county commissioner of elections. A plurality is sufficient to elect hospital trustees.

If any of the provisions of this section shall be in conflict with any of the laws of this state, then the provisions of this section shall prevail.

[C62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §347.25]

85 Acts, ch 135, §1; 91 Acts, ch 129, §26

## COUNTY HOSPITALS PAYABLE FROM REVENUE

**347A.1 Revenue bonds — trustees — administration.**

1. A county having a population less than one hundred fifty thousand may issue revenue bonds for a county hospital as provided in section 331.461, subsection 2, paragraph “e”.

2. *a.* The administration and management of the hospital shall be vested in a board of hospital trustees consisting of five or seven members. Appointments for a five-member board shall be made by the board of supervisors from among the resident citizens of the county with reference to their fitness for office, and not more than two of the trustees shall be residents of the same township.

*b.* The trustees shall hold office until the next succeeding election, at which time their successors shall be elected, two for a term of two years, two for a term of four years, and one for a term of six years, and thereafter their successors shall be elected for regular terms of six years each. Vacancies on the board of trustees may be filled in the same manner as original appointments, to hold office until the vacancies are filled pursuant to section 69.12.

*c.* The trustees shall qualify by taking the usual oath of office as provided in chapter 63, but no bond shall be required of them. The trustees shall receive no compensation but shall be reimbursed for all expenses incurred by them in the performance of their duties.

*d.* The board first appointed shall organize promptly following its appointment and shall serve until successors are elected and qualified. Thereafter, and no later than December 1 of each year, the board shall reorganize by the appointment of a chairperson, secretary, and treasurer. The secretary shall report to the county auditor and the county treasurer the names of the chairperson, secretary, and treasurer of the board as soon as practicable after the appointment of each.

*e.* Expansion from a five-member to a seven-member board of trustees shall occur only on approval of a majority of the five-member board of trustees. The five-member board of trustees shall appoint members to the additional vacancies; one appointee shall serve until the succeeding general election, and the other appointee shall serve until the second succeeding general election at which times successors shall be elected.

3. and 4. Not reprinted.

[C50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, S81, §347A.1; 81 Acts, ch 117, §1063]

84 Acts, ch 1003, §7; 90 Acts, ch 1118, §1; 92 Acts, ch 1024, §3; 97 Acts, ch 170, §87; 99 Acts, ch 36, §10; 2009 Acts, ch 110, §15

However, a majority of the landowners, owning in the aggregate more than seventy percent of the total land in the proposed district, may file a written remonstrance against the proposed district at or before the time fixed for the hearing on the proposed district with the county auditor. If the remonstrance is filed, the board of supervisors shall discontinue all further proceedings on the proposed district and charge the costs incurred to date relating to the establishment of the proposed district.

[C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §358.5]  
84 Acts, ch 1051, §2; 95 Acts, ch 67, §53; 98 Acts, ch 1139, §1

### **358.6 Notice of election.**

In its order for the election the board of supervisors shall direct the county commissioner of elections of the county in which the petition is filed to cause notice of the election to be given at least thirty days before the date of election by publication of the notice as provided in section 331.305. The notice shall state the time and place of holding the election and the hours when the polls will open and close, the purpose of the election, with the name of the proposed sanitary district and a description of the boundaries of it, and shall set forth briefly the limits of each voting precinct and the location of the polling places. Proof of publication shall be made in the manner provided in section 358.4 and filed with the county auditor.

[C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §358.6]  
92 Acts, ch 1204, §17

### **358.7 Election.**

Each registered voter resident within such proposed sanitary district shall have the right to cast a ballot at such election and no person shall vote in any precinct but that of the person's residence. Ballots at such election shall be in substantially the following form, to wit:

For Sanitary District                      
Against Sanitary District           

The board of supervisors shall cause a statement of the result of such election to be spread upon the records of the county auditor. If a majority of the votes cast upon the question of incorporation of the proposed sanitary district shall be in favor of the proposed sanitary district, such proposed sanitary district shall thenceforth be deemed an organized sanitary district under this chapter and established as conducive to the public health, comfort, convenience, and welfare.

[C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §358.7]  
94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

### **358.8 Expenses and costs of election.**

The election held pursuant to this chapter shall be conducted by the county commissioner of elections. All expenses incurred in carrying out sections 358.4 and 358.5 of this chapter, together with the costs of the election, as determined by the county commissioner of elections, shall be paid by those who will be benefited by the proposed sanitary district. If the district is not established, the expenses and costs shall be collected upon the bond or bonds of the petitioners.

[C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §358.8]  
92 Acts, ch 1204, §18; 2009 Acts, ch 133, §128

**358.9 Selection of trustees — term of office.**

1. *a.* At the election provided for in section 358.7, the names of candidates for trustee of the district shall be written by the voters on blank ballots without formal nomination, and the board of supervisors which had jurisdiction of the proceedings for establishment of the sanitary district, together with the board of supervisors of any other county in which any part of the district is located, shall appoint three trustees from among the five persons receiving the greatest number of votes as trustees of the district. One of the trustees shall be designated to serve a term expiring on the first day of January which is not a Sunday or legal holiday following the next general election, one to serve a term expiring on the first day of January which is not a Sunday or legal holiday two years later, and one to serve a term expiring on the first day of January which is not a Sunday or legal holiday four years later. Thereafter, each term shall be for a term of years established by the board of supervisors, not less than three years or more than six years. Successors to trustees shall be elected by special election or at a special meeting of the board of trustees called for that purpose. For each special election called after the initial election, a candidate for office of trustee shall be nominated by a personal affidavit of the candidate or by petition of at least ten eligible electors of the district and the candidate's personal affidavit, which shall be filed with the county commissioner of elections at least twenty-five days before the date of the election. The form of the candidate's affidavit shall be substantially the same as provided in section 45.3.

*b.* In lieu of a special election, successors to trustees shall be elected at a special meeting of the board of trustees called for that purpose. Upon its own motion, the board of trustees may, or upon petition of landowners owning more than fifty percent of the total land in the district, shall, call a special meeting of the residents of the district to elect successors to trustees of the board. Notice of the meeting shall be given at least ten days before the date of the meeting by publication of the notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the district. The notice shall state the date, times, and location of the meeting and that the meeting is called for the purpose of electing one or more trustees to the board.

2. If the petition to establish a sanitary district requests a board of trustees of five members, the board of supervisors shall select five trustees from among the seven persons receiving the highest number of votes at the initial election. Two trustees shall be designated to serve a term expiring on the first day of January which is not a Sunday or legal holiday following the next general election, two trustees to serve a term expiring on the first day of January which is not a Sunday or legal holiday two years later, and one to serve a term expiring on the first day of January which is not a Sunday or holiday four years later. Thereafter, each term shall be for a term of years established by the board of supervisors, not less than three years or more than six years. Successors to a five-member board selected under this subsection shall be chosen by election and after the initial election, a candidate for office of trustee shall be nominated by a personal affidavit of the candidate or by petition of at least ten eligible electors of the district and the candidate's personal affidavit, which shall be filed with the commissioner of county elections at least sixty-nine days before the date of the general election. The form of the candidate's affidavit shall be substantially as provided in section 45.3.

3. Upon request of a three-member board of trustees or petition of the number of eligible electors of the district equal to at least five percent of the residents of the district filed at least ninety days before the next general election, the board of supervisors shall provide for the election of a five-member board of trustees with staggered terms of office of not more than six years. The five-member board of trustees shall become effective on the first day of January which is not a Sunday or legal holiday after that general election. The board of trustees or a petition of the number of eligible electors of the district equal to at least five percent of the residents of the district may also request the board of supervisors to implement a plan to reduce the number of trustees from five to three. The board of supervisors shall allow incumbent trustees to serve their unexpired terms of office.

4. Vacancies in the office of trustee of a sanitary district shall be filled by the remaining members of the board for the period until a successor is chosen in the manner prescribed by this section or by section 69.12, whichever is applicable.

[C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §358.9; 82 Acts, ch 1199, §66, 96]

84 Acts, ch 1009, §1; 84 Acts, ch 1051, §3; 85 Acts, ch 135, §2; 92 Acts, ch 1204, §19, 20; 93 Acts, ch 24, §1; 94 Acts, ch 1045, §1; 2009 Acts, ch 41, §121

### **358.26 Annexation.**

1. In a county which has more than seven thousand five hundred acres of natural lakes, the board of trustees may, or upon request of property owners representing twenty-five percent of the valuation of the property to be annexed shall, file a petition in the office of county auditor of the county in which the property to be annexed or the major part of the property is located, requesting that there be submitted to the voters of the existing district and the area to be annexed the question whether the territory proposed to be annexed should be annexed to the sanitary district. The property to be annexed must be located within the watershed of a natural lake or navigable water as defined in section 462A.2 in the existing district. The board of supervisors of the county in which the property to be annexed or the major part of the property is located shall have jurisdiction of the proceedings on the petition.

2. The petition shall be addressed to the board of supervisors of the county in which the property to be annexed or the major part of the property is located and shall include the following:

*a.* An intelligible description of the property to be annexed to the sanitary district.

*b.* A statement that the public health, comfort, convenience, or welfare will be promoted by the annexation of the property.

*c.* The signatures of the president and the clerk of the board of trustees.

98 Acts, ch 1139, §2

### **358.27 Hearing on annexation — date and notice.**

1. The board of supervisors to which a petition filed pursuant to section 358.26 is addressed, at its next meeting, shall set the time and place for a public hearing on the petition. The board of supervisors shall direct the county auditor to give notice to interested persons of the pendency and content of the petition and of the public hearing by publication of a notice as provided in section 331.305. Proof of publication shall be filed with and preserved by the county auditor. The notice of the public hearing shall include the following information:

*a.* That a petition has been filed with the county auditor proposing to annex property to the district.



**358C.8 Election.**

1. Each registered voter resident within the proposed district shall have the right to cast a ballot at the election and a person shall not vote in any precinct but that of the person's residence. Ballots at the election shall be in substantially the following form, to wit:

For Real Estate Improvement District   
 Against Real Estate Improvement District

2. The board of supervisors shall cause a statement of the result of the election to be included in the records of the county auditor. If a majority of the votes cast upon the question of incorporation of the proposed district shall be in favor of the proposed district, the proposed district shall be deemed an organized real estate improvement district under this chapter and established as conducive to the public health, comfort, convenience, and welfare.

3. In the event the petition and order provide that any present or future owner of property within the district waives objection to annexation if the district has issued obligations or bonds for a public improvement and the annexing city assumes those obligations, the board of supervisors shall file a certified declaration of that provision and a legal description of all real estate in the district with the county recorder in each county in which the district is located.

95 Acts, ch 200, §8

**358C.9 Expenses and costs of election.**

The election held pursuant to this chapter shall be conducted by the county commissioner of elections. All expenses incurred in carrying out sections 358C.5 and 358C.6, and the costs of the election, as determined by the county commissioner of elections, shall be paid by those who will be benefited by the proposed district. If the district is not established, the expenses and costs shall be collected upon the bonds of the petitioners.

95 Acts, ch 200, §9; 2009 Acts, ch 133, §129

**358C.10 Selection of trustees — term of office.**

1. The board of supervisors or city council which had jurisdiction of the proceedings for establishment of the district, together with the board of supervisors of any other county in which any part of the district is located, shall appoint three trustees from among those persons listed in the petition. The trustees shall serve an initial two-year term.

2. Vacancies in the office of trustee of a district shall be filled by the remaining members of the board for the period until a successor is chosen in the manner prescribed by this section or by section 69.12, whichever is applicable.

3. Successors to trustees shall be elected at a special meeting of the board of trustees called for that purpose. Upon its own motion, the board of trustees may, or upon petition of landowners owning more than fifty percent of the total land in the district, shall, call a special meeting of the residents of the district to elect successors to trustees of the board. Notice of the meeting shall be given at least ten days before the date of the meeting by publication of the notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the district. The notice shall state the date, times, and location of the meeting and that the meeting is called for the purpose of electing one or more trustees to the board.

4. A candidate to fill a vacancy or as a successor trustee shall disclose prior to selection as a trustee whether the person has any financial interest in any business which is or may be a developer or contractor for public improvements within the real estate improvement district and the extent of the person's land ownership in the district, if any.

95 Acts, ch 200, §10; 96 Acts, ch 1204, §4

## TOWNSHIPS AND TOWNSHIP OFFICERS

**359.10 New township — first election.**

When a new township is formed, in which township officers are to be elected, the board of supervisors shall call the first township election, to be held at such place as it may designate, on the day of the next general election. If at any time a new township has been created in a year in which no general election is held, the board may call a special election for the election of the township officers of the new township, who shall continue in office until their successors are elected and qualified.

[C51, §231; R60, §453; C73, §385; C97, §557; S13, §1074-a; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5536; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §359.10]

**359.11 Officers to be elected.**

At said election there shall be elected one trustee for a term of two years, one trustee for a term of three years, and one trustee for a term of four years, and other officers as provided by law.

[S13, §1074-a; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5537; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §359.11]

**359.12 Order for election.**

The county commissioner of elections shall issue an order for such first election, stating the time and place of the same, the officers to be elected, and any other business to be transacted; and no business not named in such order shall be transacted at such election.

[C51, §232; R60, §454; C73, §386; C97, §558; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5538; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §359.12]

**359.13 Service and return.**

Such order may be directed to any citizen of the same township, by name, and shall be served by posting copies thereof, in three of the most public places in the township, fifteen days before the day of the election; the original order shall be returned to the presiding officer of the election, to be returned to the clerk when elected, with a return thereon of the manner of service, verified by oath, if served by any other than an officer.

[C51, §233; R60, §455; C73, §387; C97, §559; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5539; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §359.13]

**359.17 Trustees — duties — meetings.**

1. The board of township trustees in each township shall consist of three registered voters of the township. However, in townships with a taxable valuation for property tax purposes of two hundred fifty million dollars or more, the board of township trustees shall consist of five registered voters of the township. The trustees shall act as fence viewers and shall perform other duties assigned them by law. The board of trustees shall meet not less than two times a year. At least one of the meetings shall be scheduled to meet the requirements of section 359.49.

2. Not reprinted.

[C51, §221, 224; R60, §443, 446; C73, §389, 393, 969; C97, §574, 1074, 1538; S13, §1074, 1528; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5543; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §359.17]

2000 Acts, ch 1113, §1, 3, 4; 2000 Acts, ch 1117, §22; 2001 Acts, ch 56, §30; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §102, 115; 2007 Acts, ch 139, §1; 2009 Acts, ch 132, §4

## TOWNSHIP HALLS

**360.1 Election.**

The trustees, on a petition of a majority of the resident freeholders of any civil township, shall request the county commissioner of elections to submit the question of building or acquiring by purchase, or acquiring by a lease with purchase option, a public hall to the electors thereof. The county commissioner shall conduct the election pursuant to the applicable provisions of chapters 39 to 53 and certify the result to the trustees. The form of the proposition shall be: "Shall the proposition to levy a tax of ..... cents per thousand dollars of assessed value for the erection of a public hall be adopted?" Notice of the election shall be given as provided by chapter 49.

[C97, §567; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5574; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §360.1]

## CITIES

DEFINITIONS AND  
MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**362.3 Publication of notices.**

Unless otherwise provided by state law:

1. If notice of an election, hearing, or other official action is required by the city code, the notice must be published at least once, not less than four nor more than twenty days before the date of the election, hearing, or other action.

2. A publication required by the city code must be in a newspaper published at least once weekly and having general circulation in the city. However, if the city has a population of two hundred or less, or in the case of ordinances and amendments to be published in a city in which no newspaper is published, a publication may be made by posting in three public places in the city which have been permanently designated by ordinance.

In the case of notices of elections, a city with a population of two hundred or less meets the publication requirement of this section by posting notices of elections in three public places which have been designated by ordinance.

[R60, §1133; C73, §492; C97, §686, 687; C24, 27, 31, 35, §5720, 5721, 5721-a1; C39, §5720, 5721, 5721.1; C46, 50, §366.7–366.9; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §366.7; C75, 77, 79, 81, §362.3]

93 Acts, ch 143, §48; 94 Acts, ch 1180, §50

**362.4 Petition of eligible electors.**

If a petition of the voters is authorized by the city code, the petition is valid if signed by eligible electors of the city equal in number to ten percent of the persons who voted at the last preceding regular city election, but not less than ten persons, unless otherwise provided by state law. The petition shall include the signatures of the petitioners, a statement of their place of residence, and the date on which they signed the petition.

The petition shall be examined before it is accepted for filing. If the petition appears valid on its face it shall be accepted for filing. If it lacks the required number of signatures it shall be returned to the petitioner.

Petitions which have been accepted for filing are valid unless written objections are filed with the city clerk within five working days after the petition is received. The objection process in section 44.8 shall be followed.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §362.4]

89 Acts, ch 136, §70; 94 Acts, ch 1180, §51

**362.9 Application of city code.**

The provisions of this chapter and chapters 364, 368, 372, 376, 380, 384, 388 and 392 are applicable to all cities.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §362.9]

**362.11 Elections on public measures.**

Unless otherwise stated, the dates of elections on public measures authorized in the city code are limited to those specified for cities in section 39.2.

2008 Acts, ch 1115, §61, 71

## POWERS AND DUTIES OF CITIES

**364.2 Vesting of power — franchises.**

1. A power of a city is vested in the city council except as otherwise provided by a state law.

2. The enumeration of a specific power of a city does not limit or restrict the general grant of home rule power conferred by the Constitution of the State of Iowa. A city may exercise its general powers subject only to limitations expressly imposed by a state or city law.

3. An exercise of a city power is not inconsistent with a state law unless it is irreconcilable with the state law.

4. *a.* A city may grant to any person a franchise to erect, maintain, and operate plants and systems for electric light and power, heating, telegraph, cable television, district telegraph and alarm, motor bus, trolley bus, street railway or other public transit, waterworks, or gasworks, within the city for a term of not more than twenty-five years. When considering whether to grant, amend, extend, or renew a franchise, a city shall hold a public hearing on the question. Notice of the time and place of the hearing shall be published as provided in section 362.3. The franchise may be granted, amended, extended, or renewed only by an ordinance, but no exclusive franchise shall be granted, amended, extended, or renewed.

*b.* Such an ordinance shall not become effective unless approved at an election. The proposal may be submitted by the council on its own motion to the voters at any city election. Upon receipt of a valid petition as defined in section 362.4 requesting that a proposal be submitted to the voters, the council shall submit the proposal at the next regular city election or at a special election called for that purpose before the next regular city election. However, the city council may dispense with such election as to the grant, amendment, extension, or renewal of an electric light and power, heating, or gasworks franchise unless there is a valid petition requesting submission of the proposal to the voters, or the party seeking such franchise, grant, amendment, extension, or renewal requests an election. If a majority of those voting approves the proposal, the city may proceed as proposed. The complete text of the ordinance shall be included on the ballot if conventional paper ballots are used. If an optical scan voting system is used, the proposal shall be stated on the optical scan ballot, and the full text of the ordinance posted for the voters pursuant to section 52.25. All absentee voters shall receive the full text of the ordinance.

*c.* Notice of the election shall be given by publication as prescribed in section 49.53 in a newspaper of general circulation in the city.

*d.* The person asking for the granting, amending, extension, or renewal of a franchise shall pay the costs incurred in holding the election, including the costs of the notice. A franchise shall not be finally effective until an acceptance in writing has been filed with the council and payment of the costs has been made.

*e.* The franchise ordinance may regulate the conditions required and the manner of use of the streets and public grounds of the city, and it may, for the purpose of providing electrical, gas, heating, or water service, confer the power to appropriate and condemn private property upon the person franchised.

*f.* A franchise fee assessed by a city may be based upon a percentage of gross revenues generated from sales of the franchisee within the city not to exceed five percent, without regard to the city's cost of inspecting, supervising, and otherwise regulating the franchise. Franchise fees collected pursuant to an ordinance in effect on May 26, 2009, shall be deposited in the city's general fund and such fees collected in excess of the amounts necessary to inspect, supervise, and otherwise regulate the franchise may be used by the city for any other purpose authorized by law. Franchise fees collected pursuant to an ordinance that is adopted or amended on or after May 26, 2009, to increase the percentage rate at which franchise fees are assessed shall be credited to the franchise fee account within the city's general fund and used pursuant to section 384.3A. If a city franchise fee is assessed to customers of a franchise, the fee shall not be assessed to the city as a customer. Before a city adopts or amends a franchise fee rate ordinance or franchise ordinance to increase the percentage rate at which franchise fees are assessed, a revenue purpose statement shall be prepared specifying the purpose or purposes for which the revenue collected from the increased rate will be expended. If property tax relief is listed as a purpose, the revenue purpose statement shall also include information regarding the amount of the property tax relief to be provided with revenue collected from the increased rate. The revenue purpose statement shall be published as provided in section 362.3.

*g.* If a city grants more than one cable television franchise, the material terms and conditions of any additional franchise shall not give undue preference or advantage to the new franchisee. A city shall not grant a new franchise that does not include the same territory as that of the existing franchise. A new franchisee shall be given a reasonable period of time to build the new system throughout the territory.

5. Not reprinted.

[C51, §664; R60, §1047, 1056, 1057, 1090, 1094, 1095; C73, §454–456, 471, 473, 474, 517, 523, 524; C97, §695, 720–722, 775, 776; S13, §695, 720–722, 776; C24, 27, 31, 35, §5738, 5904, 5904-c1, 5905–5909, 6128, 6131–6134; C39, §5738, 5904, 5904.1, 5905–5909, 6128, 6131–6134; C46, 50, §368.1, 386.1–386.7, 397.2, 397.5–397.8; C54, 58, 62, 66, §368.2, 386.1–386.7, 388.5–388.9, 397.2, 397.5–397.8; C71, 73, §368.2, 386.1–386.7, 397.2, 397.5–397.8; C75, 77, 79, 81, §364.2]

83 Acts, ch 127, §5; 93 Acts, ch 143, §49; 98 Acts, ch 1123, §15; 98 Acts, ch 1148, §1, 9; 2001 Acts, ch 82, §1; 2001 Acts, ch 98, §1; 2005 Acts, ch 54, §11, 12; 2006 Acts, ch 1010, §96; 2007 Acts, ch 190, §42; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §89; 2009 Acts, ch 179, §228, 231

### **364.4 Property and services outside of city — lease-purchase — insurance.**

A city may:

1. to 3. Not reprinted.

4. Enter into leases or lease-purchase contracts for real or personal property in accordance with the following terms and procedures:

*a.* A city shall lease or lease-purchase property only for a term which does not exceed the economic life of the property, as determined by the governing body.

*b.* A lease or lease-purchase contract entered into by a city may contain provisions similar to those sometimes found in leases between private parties, including, but not limited to, the obligation of the lessee to pay any of the costs of operation or ownership of the leased property and the right to purchase the leased property.

c. A provision of a lease or lease-purchase contract which stipulates that a portion of the rent payments be applied as interest is subject to chapter 74A. Other laws relating to interest rates do not apply. Chapter 75 is not applicable. A city utility or city enterprise is a separate entity under this subsection whether it is governed by the governing body of the city or another governing body.

d. The governing body must follow substantially the same authorization procedure required for the issuance of general obligation bonds issued for the same purpose to authorize a lease or a lease-purchase contract made payable from the debt service fund.

e. The governing body may authorize a lease or lease-purchase contract which is payable from the general fund if the contract would not cause the total of annual lease or lease-purchase payments due from the general fund of the city in any single future fiscal year for all lease or lease-purchase contracts in force on the date of the authorization, excluding payments to exercise purchase options or to pay the expenses of operation or ownership of the property, to exceed ten percent of the last certified general fund budget amount in accordance with the following procedures:

(1) The governing body must follow substantially the authorization procedures of section 384.25 to authorize a lease or lease-purchase contract for personal property which is payable from the general fund. The governing body must follow substantially the authorization procedures of section 384.25 to authorize the lease or lease-purchase contract for real property which is payable from the general fund if the principal amount of the lease-purchase contract does not exceed the following limits:

(a) Four hundred thousand dollars in a city having a population of five thousand or less.

(b) Seven hundred thousand dollars in a city having a population of more than five thousand but not more than seventy-five thousand.

(c) One million dollars in a city having a population of more than seventy-five thousand.

(2) The governing body must follow the following procedures to authorize a lease or lease-purchase contract for real property which is payable from the general fund if the principal amount of the lease or lease-purchase contract exceeds the limits set forth in subparagraph (1):

(a) The governing body must institute proceedings to enter into a lease or lease-purchase contract payable from the general fund by causing a notice of the meeting to discuss entering into the lease or lease-purchase contract, including a statement of the principal amount and purpose of the lease or lease-purchase contract and the right to petition for an election, to be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation within the city at least ten days prior to the discussion meeting. No sooner than thirty days following the discussion meeting shall the governing body hold a meeting at which it is proposed to take action to enter into the lease or lease-purchase contract.

(b) If at any time before the end of the thirty-day period after which a meeting may be held to take action to enter into the lease or lease-purchase contract, a petition is filed with the clerk of the city in the manner provided by section 362.4, asking that the question of entering into the lease or lease-purchase contract be submitted to the registered voters of the city, the governing body shall either by resolution declare the proposal to enter into the lease or lease-purchase contract to have been abandoned or shall direct the county commissioner of elections to call a special election upon the question of entering into the lease or lease-purchase contract. However, for purposes of this subparagraph, the petition shall not require signatures in excess of one thousand persons. The question to be placed on the ballot shall be stated affirmatively in substantially the following manner: Shall the city of ..... enter into a lease or lease-purchase contract in amount of \$..... for the purpose of .....? Notice of the election and its conduct shall be in the manner provided in section 384.26, subsections 2 through 4.

(c) If a petition is not filed or if a petition is filed and the proposition of entering into the lease or lease-purchase contract is approved at an election, the governing body may proceed and enter into the lease or lease-purchase contract.

*f.* The governing body may authorize a lease or lease-purchase contract payable from the net revenues of a city utility, combined utility system, city enterprise, or combined city enterprise by following the authorization procedures of section 384.83.

*g.* A lease or lease-purchase contract to which a city is a party or in which a city has a participatory interest is an obligation of a political subdivision of this state for the purposes of chapters 502 and 636, and is a lawful investment for banks, trust companies, building and loan associations, savings and loan associations, investment companies, insurance companies, insurance associations, executors, guardians, trustees, and any other fiduciaries responsible for the investment of funds.

*h.* Property that is lease-purchased by a city is exempt under section 427.1, subsection 2.

*i.* A contract for construction by a private party of property to be leased or lease-purchased by a city is not a contract for a public improvement under section 26.2, subsection 3, except for purposes of section 26.12. However, if a lease-purchase contract is funded in advance by means of the lessor depositing moneys to be administered by a city, with the city's obligations to make rent payments commencing with its receipt of moneys, a contract for construction of the property in question awarded by the city is subject to chapter 26.

5. Not reprinted.

[SS15, §741-d, 741-g; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5773; C46, §368.41, 368.42; C50, §368.42, 368.56; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §368.18; C75, 77, 79, 81, §364.4]

85 Acts, ch 156, §3; 86 Acts, ch 1211, §22; 92 Acts, ch 1138, §4; 95 Acts, ch 67, §53; 2006 Acts, ch 1017, §35, 42, 43; 2006 Acts, 1st Ex, ch 1001, §32, 49; 2009 Acts, ch 100, §12, 21

### **364.5 Joint action — Iowa league of cities — penalty.**

Unnumbered paragraphs 1 and 2 not reprinted.

It is unlawful for the Iowa league of cities to provide any form of aid to a political party or to the campaign of a candidate for political or public office. Any person violating or being an accessory to a violation of this section is guilty of a simple misdemeanor.

Unnumbered paragraph 4 not reprinted.

[S13, §694-c; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5684; C46, 50, §363.62; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §363.43; C75, 77, 79, 81, §364.5]  
89 Acts, ch 264, §8; 95 Acts, ch 3, §4

## CITY DEVELOPMENT

## DEFINITIONS

**368.1 Definitions.**

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

1. *“Adjoining”* means having a common boundary for not less than fifty feet. Land areas may be adjoining although separated by a roadway or waterway.
2. *“Annexation”* means the addition of territory to a city.
3. *“Board”* means the city development board established in section 368.9.
4. *“Boundary adjustment”* means annexation, severance or consolidation.
5. *“City development”* means an incorporation, discontinuance or boundary adjustment.
6. *“Committee”* means the board members, and the local representatives appointed as provided in sections 368.14 and 368.14A, to hear and make a decision on a petition or plan for city development.
7. *“Consolidation”* means the combining of two or more cities into one city.
8. *“Discontinuance”* means termination of a city.
9. *“Incorporation”* means establishment of a new city.
10. *“Island”* means land which is not part of a city and which is completely surrounded by the corporate boundaries of one or more cities. However, a part of the boundary of an *“island”* may be contiguous with a boundary of the state, a river, or similar natural barrier which prevents service access from an adjoining area of land outside the boundaries of a city.
11. *“Public land”* means land owned by the federal government, the state, or a political subdivision of the state.
12. *“Public utility”* means a public utility subject to regulation pursuant to chapter 476.
13. *“Registered voter”* means a person who is registered to vote pursuant to chapter 48A.
14. *“Severance”* means the deletion of territory from a city.
15. *“Territory”* means the land area or areas proposed to be incorporated, annexed, or severed, whether or not contiguous to all other areas proposed to be incorporated, annexed, or severed. Except as provided for by an agreement pursuant to chapter 28E, *“territory”* having a common boundary with the right-of-way of a secondary road extends to the center line of the road.
16. *“Urbanized area”* means any area of land within two miles of the boundaries of a city.

[C58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §362.1; C75, 77, 79, 81, §368.1]

89 Acts, ch 98, §1; 89 Acts, ch 299, §1; 91 Acts, ch 187, §1; 91 Acts, ch 250, §1; 92 Acts, ch 1174, §1; 93 Acts, ch 152, §1-3; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §61; 2003 Acts, ch 148, §1, 9

## GENERAL PROVISIONS

**368.2 Name change.**

A city may change its name as follows:

1. The council shall propose the name change and shall notify the county commissioner of elections that the question shall be submitted at the next regular city election.

2. The county commissioner of elections shall publish notice, as provided in section 362.3, of the proposed new name, and of the fact that the question will be submitted at the next regular city election. The county commissioner of elections shall report the results of the balloting on the question to the mayor and the city council.

3. If a majority of those voting on the question approves the proposed new name, the city clerk shall enter the new name upon the city records and file certified copies of the proceedings, including the council's proposal, proof of publication of notice, and certification of the election result, with the county recorder of each county which contains part of the city, and with the secretary of state. Upon proper filing the name change is complete and effective.

[C97, §628–630; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5619–5622; C46, 50, 54, §362.34–362.37; C58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §362.38–362.41; C75, 77, 79, 81, §368.2]

**368.14A Special local committees.**

When two or more petitions for city development action or applications for voluntary annexation describing common territory are being considered together, the board shall direct the appointment of representatives for each of the petitions to serve on one special committee to consider the petitions. Expense reimbursement and qualifications of these representatives shall be as provided in section 368.14. Three board members and at least one-half of the appointed local representatives are required for a quorum of the special local committee. The manner of appointment of representatives shall be the same as for single petition committees as provided in section 368.14. The special committee shall consider the petitions in conformity with the provisions of this chapter, and shall resolve common territory issues between petitioners. The special committee shall conduct a public hearing on the petitions pursuant to section 368.15. If the common territory issue is resolved, the special local committee may approve the resulting compatible petitions by a single vote or separately, in its discretion.

91 Acts, ch 250, §9; 93 Acts, ch 152, §11

**368.15 Public hearing.**

The committee shall conduct a public hearing on a proposal as soon as practicable. Notice of the hearing must be served upon the council of each city for which a discontinuance or boundary adjustment is proposed, the county board of supervisors for each county which contains a portion of a city to be discontinued or territory to be incorporated, annexed, or severed, and any regional planning authority for the area involved. A notice of the hearing, which includes a brief description of the proposal and a statement of where the petition or plan is available for public inspection, must be published as provided in section 362.3, except that there must be two publications in a newspaper having general circulation in each city and each territory involved in the proposal. Any person may submit written briefs, and in the committee's discretion, may be heard on the proposal. The board may subpoena witnesses and documents relevant to the proposal.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §368.15]

**368.19 Time limit — election.**

1. The committee shall approve or disapprove the petition or plan as amended, within ninety days of the final hearing, and shall file its decision for record and promptly notify the parties to the proceeding of its decision. If a petition or plan is approved, the board shall submit the proposal at an election held on a date specified in section 39.2, subsection 4, paragraph "a" or "b", whichever is applicable, and the county commissioner of elections shall conduct the election. In a case of incorporation or discontinuance, registered voters of the territory or city may vote, and the proposal is authorized if a majority of those voting approves it. In a case of annexation or severance, registered voters of the territory and of the city may vote, and the proposal is authorized if a majority of the total number of persons voting approves it. In a case of consolidation, registered voters of each city to be consolidated may vote, and the proposal is authorized only if it receives a favorable majority vote in each city. The county commissioner of elections shall publish notice of the election as provided in section 49.53 and shall conduct the election in the same manner as other special elections.

2. The city shall provide to the commissioner of elections a map of the area to be incorporated, discontinued, annexed, severed, or consolidated, which must be

approved by the commissioner as suitable for posting. The map shall be displayed prominently in at least one place within the voting precinct, and inside each voting booth.

3. The costs of an incorporation election shall be borne by the initiating petitioners if the election fails, but if the proposition is approved the cost shall become a charge of the new city.

[R60, §1032, 1037, 1043, 1044; C73, §422, 423, 425, 430–432, 447–450; C97, §600–605, 610–612, 615; S13, §600–602, 615; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5592–5594, 5596, 5598, 5599, 5605, 5606, 5612–5614; C46, 50, §362.5–362.7, 362.9, 362.11, 362.12, 362.19, 362.20, 362.26, 362.28, 362.29; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §362.5–362.7, 362.9, 362.11, 362.12, 362.19, 362.20, 362.26; C75, 77, 79, 81, §368.19]

91 Acts, ch 250, §10; 95 Acts, ch 67, §53; 98 Acts, ch 1123, §16; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §62, 71; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §90

### **368.20 Procedure after approval.**

After the county commissioner of elections has certified the results to the board, the board shall:

1. Serve and publish notice of the result as provided in section 362.3.
2. File with the secretary of state and the clerk of each city incorporated or involved in a boundary adjustment, and record with the recorder of each county which contains a portion of any city or territory involved, copies of the proceedings including the original petition or plan and any amendments, the order of the board approving the petition or plan, proofs of service and publication of required notices, certification of the election result, and any other material deemed by the board to be of primary importance to the proceedings. Upon proper filing and expiration of time for appeal, the incorporation, discontinuance, or boundary adjustment is complete. However, if an appeal to any of the proceedings is pending, completion does not occur until the appeal is decided, unless a subsequent date is provided in the proposal. The board shall also file with the state department of transportation a copy of the map and legal land description of each completed incorporation or corporate boundary adjustment completed under sections 368.11 through 368.22 or approved annexation within an urbanized area.

[R60, §1044, 1053, 1054; C73, §432, 445, 446, 452; C97, §267, 603, 608, 612; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5596, 5603, 5606, 5618; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §362.9, 362.16, 362.20, 362.33; C75, 77, 79, 81, §368.20]

89 Acts, ch 22, §1; 93 Acts, ch 152, §12

CHAPTER 372

ORGANIZATION OF CITY GOVERNMENT

	DIVISION I		
	FORMS OF GOVERNMENT		
372.1	Forms of cities.	372.10	Contents of charter.
372.2	Six-year limitation.	372.11	Amendment to charter.
372.3	Home rule charter.	372.12	Special charter form limitation.
372.4	Mayor-council form.		DIVISION II
372.5	Commission form.		CITY OFFICERS
372.6	Council-manager-at-large form.	372.13	The council.
372.7	Council-manager-ward form.	372.13A	Payments without prior authorization of council.
372.8	Council-manager form — supervision.	372.14	The mayor.
372.9	Home rule charter procedure.	372.15	Removal of appointees.

---

DIVISION I

FORMS OF GOVERNMENT

**372.1 Forms of cities.**

The forms of city government are:

1. Mayor-council, or mayor-council with appointed manager.
2. Commission.
3. Council-manager-at-large.
4. Council-manager-ward.
5. Home rule charter.
6. Special charter.
7. City-county consolidated form as provided in sections 331.247 through 331.252.
8. Community commonwealth as provided in sections 331.260 through 331.263.

A city when first incorporated has the mayor-council form. A city retains its form of government until it adopts a different form as provided in this division.

Within thirty days of the date that this section becomes effective, a city shall adopt by ordinance a charter embodying its existing form of government, which must be one of the forms provided in this division, and shall file a copy of its charter with the secretary of state, and maintain copies available for public inspection.

[C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §363.1, 363.30; C75, 77, 79, 81, §372.1]  
2004 Acts, ch 1066, §29, 31

**372.2 Six-year limitation.**

Unless otherwise provided by law, a city may adopt a different form of government not more often than once in a six-year period. A different form, other than a home rule charter, special charter, city-county consolidated government, or community commonwealth, must be adopted as follows:

1. Eligible electors of the city may petition the council to submit to the electors the question of adopting a different form of city government. The minimum number of signatures required on the petition shall be equal in number to twenty-five percent of those who voted in the last regular city election. The petition shall specify which form of city government in section 372.1 the petitioners propose for adoption.

2. *a.* Within fifteen days after receiving a valid petition, the council shall publish notice of the date that a special election will be held to determine whether the city shall change to a different form of government. The election date shall be as specified in section 39.2, subsection 4, paragraph “b”. If the next election date specified in that paragraph is more than sixty days after the publication, the council shall publish another notice fifteen days before the election. The notice shall include a statement that the filing of a petition for appointment of a home rule charter commission will delay the election until after the home rule charter commission has filed a proposed charter. Petition requirements and filing deadlines shall also be included in the notice.

*b.* The council shall notify the county commissioner of elections to publish notice of the election and conduct the election pursuant to chapters 39 to 53. The county commissioner of elections shall certify the results of the election to the council.

3. If a majority of the persons voting at the special election approves the proposed form, it is adopted.

4. If a majority of the persons voting at the special election does not approve the proposed form, that form may not be resubmitted to the voters within the next four years.

5. If the proposed form is adopted:

*a.* The elective officers provided for in the adopted form are to be elected at the next regular city election held more than eighty-four days after the special election at which the form was adopted. The adopted form becomes effective at the beginning of the new term following the regular city election.

*b.* The change of form does not alter any right or liability of the city in effect when the new form takes effect.

*c.* All departments and agencies shall continue to operate until replaced.

*d.* All measures in effect remain effective until amended or repealed, unless they are irreconcilable with the adopted form.

*e.* Upon the effective date of the adopted form, the city shall adopt by ordinance a new charter embodying the adopted form, and shall file a copy of its charter with the secretary of state, and maintain copies available for public inspection.

[C73, §434–439; C97, §631–635, 637; S13, §633, 1056-a17, -a18, -a19, -a20, -a39; SS15, §1056-b1, -b2, -b22, -b26; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §6478, 6482–6487, 6491, 6549, 6568, 6569, 6616, 6617, 6619, 6620, 6623, 6680–6682, 6687, 6689, 6690, 6936–6940, 6942; C46, 50, §416.3, 416.6, 416.7–416.11, 416.15, 416.73, 416.93, 416.94, 419.2, 419.3, 419.5, 419.6, 419.9, 419.67–419.69, 419.74, 419.76, 419.77, 420.289–420.293, 420.295; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §363.31–363.38, 363B.6, 363C.12, 420.289–420.293, 420.295; C75, 77, 79, 81, §372.2]

89 Acts, ch 39, §6, 7; 94 Acts, ch 1180, §52, 53; 97 Acts, ch 170, §88; 2004 Acts, ch 1066, §30, 31; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §63, 71

### **372.3 Home rule charter.**

If a petition for appointment of a home rule charter commission is filed with the city clerk not more than ten days after the council has published the first notice announcing the date of the special election on adoption of another form of government, the special election shall not be held until the charter proposed by the home rule charter commission is filed. Both forms must be published as provided in section 372.9 and submitted to the voters at the special election.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §372.3]

97 Acts, ch 170, §89; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §64, 71

5. If a petition for the appointment of a charter commission is filed at any time within two weeks after the second publication of a charter proposed by the council, the submission to the voters of a charter proposed by the council must be delayed, a charter commission appointed, and the council proposal and the charter proposed by the charter commission must be submitted to the voters at the same special election.

6. The ballot submitting a proposed charter or charters must also submit the existing form of government as an alternative.

7. *a.* If only two forms of government are being voted upon, the form of government which receives the highest number of votes is adopted.

*b.* If more than two forms are being voted upon and no form receives a majority of the votes cast in the special election, there must be a runoff election between the two proposed forms which receive the highest number of votes in the special election. The runoff election must be held within thirty days following the special election and must be conducted in the same manner as a special city election.

8. If a home rule charter is adopted:

*a.* The elective officers provided for in the charter are to be elected at the next regular city election held more than sixty days after the special election at which the charter was adopted, and the adopted charter becomes effective at the beginning of the new term following the regular city election.

*b.* The adoption of the charter does not alter any right or liability of the city in effect at the time of the special election at which the charter was adopted.

*c.* All departments and agencies shall continue to operate until replaced.

*d.* All measures in effect remain effective until amended or repealed, unless they are irreconcilable with the charter.

*e.* Upon the effective date of the home rule charter, the city shall adopt by ordinance the home rule charter, and shall file a copy of its charter with the secretary of state, and maintain copies available for public inspection.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §372.9]

89 Acts, ch 39, §8; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §103, 115; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §65, 71

### **372.10 Contents of charter.**

A home rule charter must contain provisions for:

1. A council of an odd number of members, not less than five.

2. A mayor, who may be one of those council members.

3. Two-year or staggered four-year terms of office for the mayor and council members.

4. The powers and duties of the mayor and the council, consistent with the provisions of the city code.

5. A council representation plan pursuant to section 372.13, subsection 11.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §372.10]

91 Acts, ch 256, §38

### **372.11 Amendment to charter.**

A home rule charter may be amended by one of the following methods:

1. The council, by resolution, may submit a proposed amendment to the voters at a special city election, and the proposed amendment becomes effective if approved by a majority of those voting.

2. The council, by ordinance, may amend the charter. However, within thirty days of publication of the ordinance, if a petition valid under the provisions of section 362.4 is filed with the council, the council must submit the ordinance amendment to the voters at a special city election, and the amendment does not become effective until approved by a majority of those voting.

3. If a petition valid under the provisions of section 362.4 is filed with the council proposing an amendment to the charter, the council must submit the proposed amendment to the voters at a special city election, and the amendment becomes effective if approved by a majority of those voting.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §372.11]

### **372.12 Special charter form limitation.**

A city may not adopt the special charter form but a city governed by a special charter on July 1, 1975, is considered to have the special charter form although it may utilize elements of the mayor-council form in conjunction with the provisions of its special charter. In adopting and filing its charter as required in section 372.1, a special charter city shall include the provisions of its charter and any provisions of the mayor-council form which are followed by the city on July 1, 1975.

A special charter city may utilize the provisions of chapter 420 in lieu of conflicting sections, until the city changes to one of the other forms of government as provided in this chapter.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §372.12]

97 Acts, ch 23, §40

## DIVISION II

### CITY OFFICERS

### **372.13 The council.**

1. A majority of all council members is a quorum.

2. A vacancy in an elective city office during a term of office shall be filled, at the council's option, by one of the two following procedures:

*a.* By appointment by the remaining members of the council, except that if the remaining members do not constitute a quorum of the full membership, paragraph "b" shall be followed. The appointment shall be for the period until the next pending election as defined in section 69.12, and shall be made within forty days after the vacancy occurs. If the council chooses to proceed under this paragraph, it shall publish notice in the manner prescribed by section 362.3, stating that the council intends to fill the vacancy by appointment but that the electors of the city or ward, as the case may be, have the right to file a petition requiring that the vacancy be filled by a special election. The council may publish notice in advance if an elected official submits a resignation to take effect at a future date. The council may make an appointment to fill the vacancy after the notice is published or after the vacancy occurs, whichever is later. However, if within fourteen days after publication of the notice or within fourteen days after the appointment is made, there is filed with the city clerk a petition which requests a special election to fill the vacancy, an appointment to fill the vacancy is temporary and the council shall call a special election to fill the vacancy permanently, under paragraph "b". The number of signatures of eligible electors of a city for a valid petition shall be determined as follows:

(1) For a city with a population of ten thousand or less, at least two hundred signatures or at least the number of signatures equal to fifteen percent of the voters who voted for candidates for the office at the preceding regular election at which the office was on the ballot, whichever number is fewer.

(2) For a city with a population of more than ten thousand but not more than fifty thousand, at least one thousand signatures or at least the number of signatures equal to fifteen percent of the voters who voted for candidates for the office at the preceding regular election at which the office was on the ballot, whichever number is fewer.

(3) For a city with a population of more than fifty thousand, at least two thousand signatures or at least the number of signatures equal to ten percent of the voters who voted for candidates for the office at the preceding regular election at which the office was on the ballot, whichever number is fewer.

(4) The minimum number of signatures for a valid petition pursuant to subparagraphs (1) through (3) shall not be fewer than ten. In determining the minimum number of signatures required, if at the last preceding election more than one position was to be filled for the office in which the vacancy exists, the number of voters who voted for candidates for the office shall be determined by dividing the total number of votes cast for the office by the number of seats to be filled.

b. (1) By a special election held to fill the office for the remaining balance of the unexpired term. If the council opts for a special election or a valid petition is filed under paragraph "a", the special election may be held concurrently with any pending election as provided by section 69.12 if by so doing the vacancy will be filled not more than ninety days after it occurs. Otherwise, a special election to fill the office shall be called by the council at the earliest practicable date. The council shall give the county commissioner at least thirty-two days' written notice of the date chosen for the special election. The council of a city where a primary election may be required shall give the county commissioner at least sixty days' written notice of the date chosen for the special election. A special election held under this subsection is subject to sections 376.4 through 376.11, but the dates for actions in relation to the special election shall be calculated with regard to the date for which the special election is called. However, a nomination petition must be filed not less than twenty-five days before the date of the special election and, where a primary election may be required, a nomination petition must be filed not less than fifty-three days before the date of the special election.

(2) If there are concurrent vacancies on the council and the remaining council members do not constitute a quorum of the full membership, a special election shall be called by the county commissioner at the earliest practicable date. The remaining council members shall give notice to the county commissioner of the absence of a quorum. If there are no remaining council members, the city clerk shall give notice to the county commissioner of the absence of a council. If the office of city clerk is vacant, the city attorney shall give notice to the county commissioner of the absence of a clerk and a council. Notice of the need for a special election shall be given under this paragraph by the end of the following business day.

3. The council shall appoint a city clerk to maintain city records and perform other duties prescribed by state or city law.

4. Except as otherwise provided by state or city law, the council may appoint city officers and employees, and prescribe their powers, duties, compensation, and terms. The appointment of a city manager must be made on the basis of that individual's qualifications and not on the basis of political affiliation.

5. The council shall determine its own rules and maintain records of its proceedings. City records and documents, or accurate reproductions, shall be kept for at least five years except that:

*a.* Ordinances, resolutions, council proceedings, records and documents, or accurate reproductions, relating to the issuance of public bonds or obligations shall be kept for at least eleven years following the final maturity of the bonds or obligations. Thereafter, such records, documents, and reproductions may be destroyed, preserving confidentiality as necessary. Records and documents pertaining to the transfer of ownership of bonds shall be kept as provided in section 76.10.

*b.* Ordinances, resolutions, council proceedings, records and documents, or accurate reproductions, relating to real property transactions shall be maintained permanently.

6. Within fifteen days following a regular or special meeting of the council, the clerk shall cause the minutes of the proceedings of the council, including the total expenditure from each city fund, to be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the city. The publication shall include a list of all claims allowed and a summary of all receipts and shall show the gross amount of the claims. The list of claims allowed shall show the name of the person or firm making the claim, the reason for the claim, and the amount of the claim. If the reason for the claims is the same, two or more claims made by the same vendor, supplier, or claimant may be consolidated if the number of claims consolidated and the total consolidated claim amount are listed in the statement. However, the city shall provide at its office upon request an unconsolidated list of all claims allowed. Matters discussed in closed session pursuant to section 21.3 shall not be published until entered on the public minutes. However, in cities having more than one hundred fifty thousand population, the council shall each month print in pamphlet form a detailed itemized statement of all receipts and disbursements of the city, and a summary of its proceedings during the preceding month, and furnish copies to the city library, the daily newspapers of the city, and to persons who apply at the office of the city clerk, and the pamphlet shall constitute publication as required. Failure by the clerk to make publication is a simple misdemeanor. The provisions of this subsection are applicable in cities in which a newspaper is published, or in cities of two hundred population or over, but in all other cities, posting the statement in three public places in the city which have been permanently designated by ordinance is sufficient compliance with this subsection.

7. By ordinance, the council may divide the city into wards which shall be drawn according to the following standards:

*a.* All ward boundaries shall follow precinct boundaries.

*b.* Wards shall be as nearly equal as practicable to the ideal population determined by dividing the number of wards to be established into the population of the city.

*c.* Wards shall be composed of contiguous territory as compact as practicable.

*d.* Consideration shall not be given to the addresses of incumbent officeholders, political affiliations of registered voters, previous election results, or demographic information other than population head counts, except as required by the Constitution and the laws of the United States.

8. By ordinance, the council shall prescribe the compensation of the mayor, council members, and other elected city officers, but a change in the compensation of the mayor does not become effective during the term in which the change is adopted, and the council shall not adopt an ordinance changing the compensation of the mayor, council members, or other elected officers during the months of November and December in the year of a regular city election. A change in the compensation of council members becomes effective for all council members at the beginning of the term of the council members elected at the election next following the change in compensation. Except as provided in section 362.5, an elected city officer is not entitled to receive any other compensation for any other city office or city employment during that officer's tenure in office, but may be reimbursed for actual expenses incurred. However, if the mayor pro tem performs the duties of the mayor during the mayor's absence or disability for a continuous period of fifteen days or more, the mayor pro tem may be paid for that period the compensation determined by the council, based upon the mayor pro tem's performance of the mayor's duties and upon the compensation of the mayor.

9. A council member, during the term for which that member is elected, is not eligible for appointment to any city office if the office has been created or the compensation of the office has been increased during the term for which that member is elected. A person who resigns from an elective office is not eligible for appointment to the same office during the time for which that person was elected if during that time, the compensation of the office has been increased.

10. A council member, during the term for which that member is elected, is not precluded from holding the office of chief of the volunteer fire department if the fire department serves an area with a population of not more than two thousand. A person holding the office of chief of such a volunteer fire department at the time of the person's election to the city council may continue to hold the office of chief of the fire department during the city council term for which that person was elected.

11. *a.* Council members shall be elected according to the council representation plans under sections 372.4 and 372.5. However, the council representation plan may be changed, by petition and election, to one of those described in this subsection. Upon receipt of a valid petition, as defined in section 362.4, requesting a change to a council representation plan, the council shall submit the question at a special election. If a majority of the persons voting at the special election approves the changed plan, it becomes effective at the beginning of the term following the next regular city election. If a majority does not approve the changed plan, the council shall not submit another proposal to change a plan to the voters within the next two years.

*b.* Eligible electors of a city may petition for one of the following council representation plans:

- (1) Election at large without ward residence requirements for the members.
- (2) Election at large but with equal-population ward residence requirements for the members.
- (3) Election from single-member, equal-population wards, in which the electors of each ward shall elect one member who must reside in that ward.
- (4) Election of a specified number of members at large and a specified number of members from single-member, equal-population wards.

1. [R60, §1081, 1093; C73, §511, 522; C97, §668; S13, §668; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5663; C46, 50, §363.36; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §368A.1(2); C75, 77, 79, 81, §372.13(1)]

2. [R60, §1101; C73, §514, 524; C97, §668; S13, §668; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5663; C46, 50, §363.36; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §368A.1(8); C75, 77, 79, 81, §372.13(2); 81 Acts, ch 34, §46]

3. [R60, §1082, 1093; C73, §512, 522; C97, §651, 659, 940; S13, §651; SS15, §1056-a26, 1056-b18; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5633, 5640, 5663, 6528, 6651, 6703; C46, 50, §363.11, 363.19, 363.36, 416.52, 419.37, 420.13; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §368A.1(1), 368A.3; C75, 77, 79, 81, §372.13(3)]

4. [R60, §1086, 1093, 1095, 1098, 1103, 1105, 1134; C73, §493, 515, 522, 524, 528, 532, 534; C97, §651, 657, 668, 676; S13, §651, 657, 668, 1056-a27, 1056-a28; SS15, §1056-a26, 1056-b14, 1056-b17, 1056-b18; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5638, 5663, 5671, 6519, 6528, 6529, 6533, 6651, 6666, 6674; C46, 50, §363.11, 363.17, 363.36, 363.45, 416.43, 416.52, 416.53, 416.57, 419.37, 419.52, 419.60; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §363.40, 363A.4, 363B.11, 363C.4, 363C.9, 368A.1(7, 9, 10); C75, 77, 79, 81, §372.13(4)]

5, 6. [R60, §1082, 1093; C73, §512, 522; C97, §659, 668; S13, §668, 687-a; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5640, 5663, 5722; C46, 50, §363.19, 363.33, 366.10; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §368A.1(4), 368A.3; C75, 77, 79, 81, §372.13(5, 6); 82 Acts, ch 1047, §1]

7. [R60, §1092; C73, §520; C97, §641; S13, §641; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5626; C46, 50, §363.4; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §363.7; C75, 77, 79, 81, §372.13(7)]

8. [R60, §1091, 1095, 1098; C73, §505, 519, 524, 528; C97, §669, 676, 943, 945; S13, §669, 1056-a28; SS15, §1056-b9; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5664, 5671, 6517, 6633, 6704, 6705; C46, 50, §363.38, 363.45, 416.41, 419.19, 420.14, 420.15; C54, 58, 62, 66, §363.39, 363A.4, 363B.9, 363C.2, 420.14, 420.15; C71, 73, §363.39, 363A.4, 363B.9, 363C.2, 363E.1, 420.14, 420.15; C75, 77, 79, 81, §372.13(8)]

9. [R60, §1091, 1122; C73, §490, 491, 519; C97, §668, 677; S13, §668; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5672; C46, 50, §363.46, 420.17–420.19; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §368A.21; C75, 77, 79, 81, §372.13(9)]

85 Acts, ch 107, §1; 87 Acts, ch 203, §3; 88 Acts, ch 1052, §1; 88 Acts, ch 1246, §4; 89 Acts, ch 39, §9; 89 Acts, ch 136, §71; 90 Acts, ch 1106, §1; 91 Acts, ch 256, §39; 93 Acts, ch 89, §2; 94 Acts, ch 1179, §24; 94 Acts, ch 1180, §54; 97 Acts, ch 170, §90; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §104, 115; 2004 Acts, ch 1175, §249; 2006 Acts, ch 1018, §5; 2006 Acts, ch 1138, §2; 2007 Acts, ch 112, §4; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §66, 71; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §91

Removal of appointees, see §372.15  
Removal of officers, chapter 66

### **372.13A Payments without prior authorization of council.**

1. If concurrent vacancies exist on the council and the remaining council members do not constitute a quorum of the full membership, the city clerk is authorized to make the following payments without prior approval of the council:

*a.* For fixed charges including but not limited to freight, express, postage, water, light, telephone service, or contractual services, after a bill is filed with the clerk.

*b.* For salaries and payrolls if the compensation has been fixed or approved by the council. The salary or payroll shall be certified by the officer or supervisor under whose direction or supervision the compensation is earned.

2. If concurrent vacancies exist on the council and the remaining council members do not constitute a quorum of the full membership and the office of city clerk is vacant, the county auditor of the county where the city is located shall make the payments described in subsection 1 without prior approval of the council.

3. The bills paid under this section shall be submitted to the city council for review and approval at the next regular meeting following payment in which a quorum of the council is present.

2006 Acts, ch 1138, §3

2. Within nine months after the organization of the commission, the commission shall submit a preliminary report to the councils of the participating cities, which report may include the text of the proposed charter. If a proposed charter is included in the preliminary report, the report shall also include an analysis of the fiscal impact of the proposed charter. Sufficient copies of the report shall be made available for distribution to residents of the participating cities who request a copy. The commission shall hold at least one public hearing after submission of the preliminary report to obtain public comment.

3. Within twenty months after organization, the commission shall submit the final report to the councils of the participating cities. If the commission recommends a charter of consolidation, the final report shall include the full text and an explanation of the proposed charter, an analysis of the fiscal impact of the proposed charter, any comments deemed desirable by the commission, and any minority reports. The final report may recommend no change to the existing form of government and that no charter be submitted to the electorate, or it may recommend consolidation of the participating cities with the county. If the board of supervisors by resolution agrees to participate in consolidation, then the participating cities and county shall proceed under sections 331.231 through 331.252.

4. The final report of the commission shall be made available to the residents of the participating cities upon request. A summary of the final report shall be published in the official newspapers of the county. If a charter is not recommended, the commission is dissolved upon submission of its final report to the councils of the participating cities.

91 Acts, ch 256, §43

### **373.5 Consolidation charter.**

A proposed charter written by a charter commission shall specify the consolidated metropolitan form of government. The proposed consolidation charter shall do all of the following:

1. Provide the official name of the consolidated unit of local government and establish its geographic boundaries.

2. Establish an elective legislative body pursuant to section 373.9, including provisions on terms of office, initial compensation, meetings, and rules of procedure.

3. Provide for the at-large election of an officer to preside over the metropolitan council and perform other duties as specified, and provide for the election of other necessary officers.

4. Provide for the nonpartisan election of officers of the consolidated metropolitan corporation government.

5. Specify the powers and duties of the metropolitan council, its administrative officers, and elected officials.

6. Provide for delivery of certain services to the member cities, pursuant to section 373.11, and may provide for the abolition or consolidation of a department, agency, board, or commission and the assumptions of its powers and duties by the metropolitan council or another officer.

7. Provide for a system of revenue collection pursuant to section 373.10.

8. Provide for the orderly transition to the charter form of metropolitan consolidation.

9. Include other provisions which the consolidation charter commission elects to include and which are not inconsistent with state law.

10. Specify a charter amendment process pursuant to section 372.11.

11. Provide for the appointment of a manager by the metropolitan council pursuant to section 372.8.

91 Acts, ch 256, §44

**373.6 Referendum — effective date.**

1. If a proposed charter for consolidation is received not later than seventy-eight days before the next general election, the council of the participating city with the largest population shall, not later than sixty-nine days before the general election, direct the county commissioner of elections to submit to the registered voters of the participating cities at the next general election the question of whether the proposed charter shall be adopted. A summary of the proposed charter shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in each city participating in the charter commission process at least ten but not more than twenty days before the date of the election. The proposed charter shall be effective in regard to a city only if a majority of the electors of the city voting approves the proposed charter.

2. If a proposed charter for consolidation is adopted:

a. The adopted charter shall take effect July 1 following the election at which it is approved unless the charter provides a later effective date. A special election shall be called to elect the new elective officers.

b. The adoption of the consolidated metropolitan corporation form of government does not alter any right or liability of any participating city in effect at the time of the election at which the charter was adopted.

c. All departments and agencies shall continue to operate until replaced.

d. All ordinances or resolutions in effect remain effective until amended or repealed, unless they are irreconcilable with the adopted charter.

e. Upon the effective date of the adopted charter, the participating cities shall adopt the consolidation form by ordinance, and shall file a copy with the secretary of state, and maintain available copies for public inspection.

3. If a charter is submitted to the electorate but is not adopted, another charter shall not be submitted to the electorate for two years. If a charter is adopted, it may be amended at any time. If a charter is adopted, a proposed charter for another alternative form of city government shall not be submitted to the electorate for six years.

4. Section 372.2 shall not apply to a charter commission established under this chapter.

91 Acts, ch 256, §45; 95 Acts, ch 67, §53; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §92

**373.7 Form of ballot.**

The question of metropolitan consolidation shall be submitted to the electors in substantially the following form:

Should the cities of ..... and ..... unite to form one joint metropolitan corporation government?

The ballot must contain a brief description and summary of the proposed charter or amendment.

91 Acts, ch 256, §46

CHAPTER 376

CITY ELECTIONS

376.1	City election held.	376.6	Primary or other method of nomination — certification.
376.2	Terms.	376.7	Date of primary.
376.3	Nominations.	376.8	Persons elected in city elections.
376.4	Candidacy.	376.9	Runoff election.
376.4A	Change to direct election of mayor — nomination petition signature requirements.	376.10	Contest.
376.5	Publication of ballot.	376.11	Write-in votes.

**376.1 City election held.**

A city shall hold a regular city election on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of each odd-numbered year. A city shall hold regular, special, primary, or runoff city elections as provided by state law.

The mayor or council shall give notice of any special election to the county commissioner of elections. The county commissioner of elections shall publish notice of any city election and conduct the election pursuant to the provisions of chapters 39 to 53, except as otherwise specifically provided in chapters 362 to 392. The results of any election shall be canvassed by the county board of supervisors and certified by the county commissioner of elections to the mayor and the council of the city for which the election is held.

[R60, §1130; C73, §501; C97, §642, 936; S13, §646, 1056-a20, -a21; SS15, §1056-b5, -b6; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5627, 6488, 6494, 6507, 6514, 6643, 6644, 6737; C46, 50, §363.5, 416.12, 416.18, 416.31, 416.38, 419.29, 419.30; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §363.8, 363.20, 363.24, 363.26; C75, 77, 79, 81, §376.1]

**376.2 Terms.**

1. Terms of city officers begin and end at noon on the first day in January which is not a Sunday or legal holiday, following a regular city election.

2. Except as otherwise provided by state law or the city charter, terms for elective offices are two years. However, the term of an elective office may be changed to two or four years by petition and election. Upon receipt of a valid petition as defined in section 362.4, requesting that the term of an elective office be changed, the council shall submit the question at a special election. If a majority of the persons voting at the special election approves the changed term, it becomes effective at the beginning of the term following the next regular city election. If a majority does not approve the changed term, the council shall not submit the same proposal to the voters within the next four years.

3. At the first regular city election after the terms of council members are changed to four years, terms shall be staggered as follows:

a. If an even number of council members are elected at large, the half of the elected council members who receive the highest number of votes are elected for four-year terms. The remainder are elected for two-year terms.

b. If an odd number of council members are elected at large, the majority of the elected council members who receive the highest number of votes are elected for four-year terms. The remainder are elected for two-year terms.

c. In case of a tie the mayor and clerk shall determine by lot which council members are elected for four-year terms.

*d.* If the council members are elected from wards, the council members elected from the odd-numbered wards are elected for four-year terms and the council members elected from even-numbered wards are elected for two-year terms.

4. After July 1, 1986, a petition submitted under this section to change the term of council members from two to four years shall specify if the terms are to be staggered or run concurrently. If the petition provides for concurrent terms and the changed term is approved by the voters, subsection 3 shall not apply and the terms shall be concurrent. If valid petitions for staggered and concurrent terms are submitted, the first filed shall govern.

[R60, §1081, 1084, 1091, 1093, 1106; C73, §390, 511, 514, 518, 521, 535; C97, §646–649; S13, §646–649; SS15, §1056-b3; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5632, 6625, 6626; C46, 50, §363.10, 419.11, 419.12; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §363.9, 363.10, 363.28; C75, 77, 79, 81, §376.2]

86 Acts, ch 1224, §34; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §105, 115; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §67, 71

### **376.3 Nominations.**

Candidates for elective city offices must be nominated as provided in sections 376.4 to 376.9 unless by ordinance a city chooses the provisions of chapters 44 or 45. However, a city acting under a special charter in 1973 and having a population of over fifty thousand shall continue to hold partisan elections as provided in sections 43.112 to 43.118 and 420.126 to 420.137 unless the city by election as provided in section 43.112 chooses to conduct city elections under this chapter or chapter 44 or 45. The choice of one of these options by such a special charter city does not otherwise affect the validity of the city's charter. However, special charter cities which choose to exercise the option to conduct nonpartisan city elections may choose in the same manner the original decision was made, to resume holding city elections on a partisan basis.

[S13, §1056-a21; SS15, §1056-b4; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §6492, 6496, 6634, 6638; C46, 50, §416.16, 416.20, 419.20, 419.24; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §363.11, 363.16; C75, 77, 79, 81, §376.3; 82 Acts, ch 1097, §2]

### **376.4 Candidacy.**

1. *a.* An eligible elector of a city may become a candidate for an elective city office by filing with the city clerk a valid petition requesting that the elector's name be placed on the ballot for that office. The petition must be filed not more than seventy-one days and not less than forty-seven days before the date of the election, and must be signed by eligible electors equal in number to at least two percent of those who voted to fill the same office at the last regular city election, but not less than ten persons. However, for those cities which may be required to hold a primary election, the petition must be filed not more than eighty-five days and not less than sixty-eight days before the date of the regular city election. Nomination petitions shall be filed not later than 5:00 p.m. on the last day for filing.

*b.* The petitioners for an individual seeking election from a ward must be residents of the ward at the time of signing the petition. An individual is not eligible for election from a ward unless the individual is a resident of the ward at the time the individual files the petition and at the time of election.

2. *a.* The petition must include space for the signatures of the petitioners, a statement of their place of residence, and the date on which they signed the petition. A person may sign nomination petitions for more than one candidate for the same office, and the signature is not invalid solely because the person signed nomination petitions for one or more other candidates for the office.

*b.* The petition must include the affidavit of the individual for whom it is filed, stating the individual's name, the individual's residence, that the individual is a candidate and eligible for the office, and that if elected the individual will qualify for the office. The affidavit shall also state that the candidate is aware that the candidate is disqualified from holding office if the candidate has been convicted of a felony or other infamous crime and the candidate's rights have not been restored by the governor or by the president of the United States.

3. If the city clerk is not readily available during normal office hours, the city clerk shall designate other employees or officials of the city who are ordinarily available to accept nomination papers under this section. On the final date for filing nomination papers the office of the city clerk shall remain open until 5:00 p.m.

4. The city clerk shall review each petition and affidavit of candidacy for completeness following the standards in section 45.5 and shall accept the petition for filing if on its face it appears to have the requisite number of signatures and if it is timely filed. The city clerk shall note upon each petition and affidavit accepted for filing the date and time that they were filed. The clerk shall return any rejected nomination papers to the person on whose behalf the nomination papers were filed.

5. Nomination papers filed with the city clerk shall be available for public inspection. The city clerk shall deliver all nomination papers together with the text of any public measure being submitted by the city council to the electorate to the county commissioner of elections not later than 5:00 p.m. on the day following the last day on which nomination petitions can be filed.

6. Any person on whose behalf nomination petitions have been filed under this section may withdraw as a candidate by filing a signed statement to that effect as prescribed in section 44.9. Objections to the legal sufficiency of petitions shall be filed in accordance with the provisions of sections 44.4, 44.5, and 44.8.

[S13, §1056-a21, -a40; SS15, §1056-b4; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §6478, 6495–6498, 6634–6638; C46, 50, §416.2, 416.19–416.22, 419.20–419.24; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §363.11–363.16; C75, 77, 79, 81, §376.4]

86 Acts, ch 1224, §35; 87 Acts, ch 221, §33; 88 Acts, ch 1119, §39; 89 Acts, ch 136, §72; 90 Acts, ch 1238, §40; 94 Acts, ch 1180, §55; 97 Acts, ch 170, §91; 98 Acts, ch 1052, §7; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §93

### **376.4A Change to direct election of mayor — nomination petition signature requirements.**

1. If there is a change in government pursuant to section 372.6, subsection 2, the number of signatures required on a nomination petition for the office of mayor for the first election that office is on the ballot shall be an amount equal to the product of the following:

*a.* The total number of votes cast for at-large city council offices at the last regular city election divided by the number of city council seats to be filled at the last regular city election.

*b.* Two hundredths.

2. If the product of subsection 1, paragraphs “a” and “b”, is less than ten, the required number of signatures is ten.

2007 Acts, ch 18, §1

### **376.5 Publication of ballot.**

Notice containing a copy of the ballot for each regular, special, primary, or runoff city election must be published by the county commissioner of elections as provided in section 362.3, except that notice of a regular, primary, or runoff election may be published not less than four days before the date of the election. The published ballot must contain the names of all candidates, and may not contain any party designations. The published ballot must contain any question to be submitted to the voters.

[S13, §1056-a21; SS15, §1056-b4; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §6499, 6500, 6501, 6503, 6640; C46, 50, §416.23–416.25, 416.27, 419.26; C58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §363.19; C75, 77, 79, 81, §376.5]

### **376.6 Primary or other method of nomination — certification.**

An individual for whom a valid petition is filed becomes a candidate in the regular city election for the office for which the individual has filed, except that a primary election must be held for offices for which the number of individuals for whom valid petitions are filed is more than twice the number of positions to be filled. However:

1. The council may by ordinance choose to have a runoff election, as provided in section 376.9, in lieu of a primary election.

2. If the council has by ordinance chosen to have nominations made in the manner provided by chapter 44 or 45, neither a primary election nor a runoff election is required.

Each city clerk shall certify to the commissioner of elections responsible under section 47.2 for conducting elections for that city the type of nomination process to be used for the city no later than ninety days before the date of the regular city election. If the city has by ordinance chosen a runoff election or has chosen to have nominations made in the manner provided by chapter 44 or 45, or has repealed nomination provisions under those sections in preference for the primary election method, a copy of the city ordinance shall be attached. No changes in the method of nomination to be used in a city shall be made after the clerk has filed the certification with the commissioner, unless the change will not take effect until after the next regular city election.

[S13, §1056-a21; SS15, §1056-b4; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §6492, 6510, 6638; C46, 50, §416.16, 416.34, 419.24; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §363.16, 363.18; C75, 77, 79, 81, §376.6]  
88 Acts, ch 1119, §40; 2002 Acts, ch 1134, §106, 115

### **376.7 Date of primary.**

If a primary election is necessary, it shall be held on the Tuesday four weeks before the date of the regular city election. The county board of supervisors shall publicly canvass the tally lists of the vote cast in the primary election, following the procedures prescribed in section 50.24, at a meeting to be held beginning at one o'clock in the afternoon on the second day following the primary election.

The names of those candidates who receive the highest number of votes for each office on the primary election ballot, to the extent of twice the number of unfilled positions, must be placed on the ballot for the regular city election as candidates for that office.

[S13, §1056-a21; SS15, §1056-b5; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §6493, 6507, 6643; C46, 50, §416.17, 416.31, 419.29; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §363.17, 363.24; C75, 77, 79, 81, §376.7]  
86 Acts, ch 1224, §36

10. A tax for the operation and maintenance of a municipal transit system or for operation and maintenance of a regional transit district, and for the creation of a reserve fund for the system or district, in an amount not to exceed ninety-five cents per thousand dollars of assessed value each year, when the revenues from the transit system or district are insufficient for such purposes.

11. If a city has entered into a lease of a building or complex of buildings to be operated as a civic center, a tax sufficient to pay the installments of rent and for maintenance, insurance and taxes not included in the lease rental payments.

12. A tax not to exceed thirteen and one-half cents per thousand dollars of assessed value each year for operating and maintaining a civic center owned by a city.

13. A tax not to exceed six and three-fourths cents per thousand dollars of assessed value for planning a sanitary disposal project.

14. A tax not to exceed twenty-seven cents per thousand dollars of assessed value each year for an aviation authority as provided in section 330A.15.

15. If a city has joined with the county to form an authority for a joint county-city building, as provided in section 346.27, and has entered into a lease with the authority, a tax sufficient to pay the annual rent payable under the lease.

16. A tax not to exceed six and three-fourths cents per thousand dollars of assessed value each year for a levee improvement fund in special charter cities as provided in section 420.155.

17. A tax not to exceed twenty and one-half cents per thousand dollars of assessed value each year to maintain an institution received by gift or devise, subject to an election as required under subsection 1.

18. A tax to pay the premium costs on tort liability insurance, property insurance, and any other insurance that may be necessary in the operation of the city, the costs of a self-insurance program, the costs of a local government risk pool and amounts payable under any insurance agreements to provide or procure such insurance, self-insurance program, or local government risk pool.

19. A tax to fund an emergency medical services district under chapter 357G.

20. A tax that exceeds any tax levy limit within this chapter, provided the question has been submitted at a special levy election and received a simple majority of the votes cast on the proposition to authorize the enumerated levy limit to be exceeded for the proposed budget year.

*a.* The election may be held as specified in this subsection if notice is given by the city council, not later than thirty-two days before the first Tuesday in March, to the county commissioner of elections that the election is to be held.

*b.* An election under this subsection shall be held on the first Tuesday in March and be conducted by the county commissioner of elections in accordance with the law.

c. The ballot question shall be in substantially the following form:

WHICH TAX LEVY SHALL BE ADOPTED FOR THE CITY OF  
.....?

(Vote for only one of the following choices.)

CHANGE LEVY AMOUNT .....

Add to the existing levy amount a tax for the purpose of ..... (state purpose of proposed levy) at a rate of ..... (rate) which will provide an additional \$..... (amount).

KEEP CURRENT LEVY .....

Continue under the current maximum rate of ....., providing \$..... (amount).

d. The commissioner of elections conducting the election shall notify the city officials and other county auditors where applicable, of the results within two days of the canvass which shall be held beginning at one o'clock on the second day following the special levy election.

e. Notice of the election shall be published twice in accordance with the provisions of section 362.3, except that the first such notice shall be given at least two weeks before the election.

f. The cost of the election shall be borne by the city.

g. The election provisions of this subsection shall supersede other provisions for elections only to the extent necessary to comply with the provisions hereof.

h. The provisions of this subsection apply to all cities, however organized, including special charter cities which may adopt ordinances where necessary to carry out these provisions.

i. The council shall certify the city's budget with the tax askings not exceeding the amount approved by the special levy election.

21. A tax not to exceed twenty-seven cents per thousand dollars of assessed value for support of a public library, subject to petition and referendum requirements of subsection 1, except that if a majority approves the levy, it shall be imposed.

22. A tax for the support of a local emergency management commission established pursuant to chapter 29C.

1. [C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5835-5839; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §375.1-375.5; C75, 77, 79, 81, S81, §384.12(1)]

2. [C75, 77, 79, 81, S81, §384.12(2)]

3. [C50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §379A.1-379A.5; C75, 77, 79, 81, S81, §384.12(3)]

4. [C62, 66, 71, 73, §379B.1, 379B.2; C75, 77, 79, 81, S81, §384.12(4)]

5, 6. [R60, §710; C73, §796; C97, §758-764, 888, 895, 1303; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5882-5887, 6209, 6221; C46, 50, §381.9-381.14, 404.3, 404.15; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §381.9-381.14, 404.7; C75, 77, 79, 81, S81, §384.12(5, 6)]

7. [S13, §766-a, 766-b; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5890, 5891, 5894; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §381.17, 381.18, 382.1; C75, 77, 79, 81, S81, §384.12(7)]

8. [C97, §766; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5889; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §381.16; C75, 77, 79, 81, S81, §384.12(8)]

9. [C58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §386A.1, 386A.4, 386A.9, 386A.12; C75, 77, 79, 81, S81, §384.12(9)]
  10. [C58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §386B.12; C75, 77, 79, 81, S81, §384.12(10)]
  11. [C71, 73, §378A.6; C75, 77, 79, 81, S81, §384.12(11)]
  12. [C71, 73, §378A.10; C75, 77, 79, 81, S81, §384.12(12)]
  13. [C71, 73, §404.27; C75, 77, 79, 81, S81, §384.12(13)]
  14. [C75, 77, 79, 81, S81, §384.12(14)]
  15. [C66, 71, 73, §368.67; C75, 77, 79, 81, S81, §384.12(15); 81 Acts, ch 117, §1081; 82 Acts, ch 1104, §14]
  16. [C75, 77, 79, 81, S81, §384.12(16)]
  17. [S13, §740; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §10190; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §565.8; C75, 77, 79, 81, S81, §384.12(18); 81 Acts, ch 117, §1081]
  18. [C75, 77, 79, 81, S81, §384.12(19)]
  20. [C81, S81, §384.12(20)]
- 83 Acts, ch 101, §82; 85 Acts, ch 195, §46; 86 Acts, ch 1211, §23; 88 Acts, ch 1213, §1; 89 Acts, ch 203, §1; 91 Acts, ch 247, §1; 92 Acts, ch 1139, §29; 94 Acts, ch 1075, §15; 94 Acts, ch 1180, §56; 95 Acts, ch 189, §21; 2004 Acts, ch 1072, §8; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §94

#### GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS

##### **384.24 Definitions.**

As used in this division, unless the context otherwise requires:

1. “*General obligation bond*” means a negotiable bond issued by a city and payable from the levy of unlimited ad valorem taxes on all the taxable property within the city through its debt service fund which is required to be established by section 384.4.
2. “*City enterprise*” means any of the following, including the real estate, fixtures, equipment, accessories, appurtenances, and all property necessary or useful for the operation of any of the following:
  - a. Parking facilities systems, which may include parking lots and other off-street parking areas, parking ramps and structures on, above, or below the surface, parking meters, both on-street and off-street, and all other fixtures, equipment, accessories, appurtenances, and requisites useful for the successful operation of a parking facilities system.
  - b. Civic centers or civic center systems, which may include auditoriums, music halls, theatres, sports arenas, armories, exhibit halls, meeting rooms, convention halls, or combinations of these.
  - c. Recreational facilities or recreational facilities systems, including, without limitation, real and personal property, water, buildings, improvements, and equipment useful and suitable for administering recreation programs, and also including without limitation, zoos, museums, and centers for art, drama, and music, as well as those programs more customarily identified with the term “recreation” such as public sports, games, pastimes, diversions, and amusement, on land or water, whether or not such facilities are located in or as a part of any public park.
  - d. Port facilities or port facilities systems, including without limitation, real and personal property, water, buildings, improvements and equipment useful and suitable for taking care of the needs of commerce and shipping, and also including without limitation, wharves, docks, basins, piers, quay walls, warehouses, tunnels, belt railway facilities, cranes, dock apparatus, and other machinery necessary for the convenient and economical accommodation and handling of watercraft of all kinds and of freight and passengers.
  - e. Airport and airport systems.
  - f. Solid waste collection systems and disposal systems.

- g. Bridge and bridge systems.
  - h. Hospital and hospital systems.
  - i. Transit systems.
  - j. Stadiums.
  - k. Housing for persons who are elderly or persons with physical disabilities.
  - l. Child care centers providing child care or preschool services, or both. For purposes of this paragraph, "*child care*" means providing for the care, supervision, and guidance of a child by a person other than the parent, guardian, relative, or custodian for periods of less than twenty-four hours per day on a regular basis. For purposes of this paragraph, "*preschool*" means child care which provides to children ages three through five, for periods of time not exceeding three hours per day, programs designed to help the children to develop intellectual skills, and motor skills, and to extend their interest and understanding of the world about them.
3. "*Essential corporate purpose*" means:
- a. The opening, widening, extending, grading, and draining of the right-of-way of streets, highways, avenues, alleys, public grounds, and market places, and the removal and replacement of dead or diseased trees thereon; the construction, reconstruction, and repairing of any street improvements; the acquisition, installation, and repair of traffic control devices; and the acquisition of real estate needed for any of the foregoing purposes.
  - b. The acquisition, construction, improvement, and installation of street lighting fixtures, connections, and facilities.
  - c. The construction, reconstruction, and repair of sidewalks and pedestrian underpasses and overpasses, and the acquisition of real estate needed for such purposes.
  - d. The acquisition, construction, reconstruction, extension, improvement, and equipping of works and facilities useful for the collection, treatment, and disposal of sewage and industrial waste in a sanitary manner, for the collection and disposal of solid waste, and for the collection and disposal of surface waters and streams.
  - e. The acquisition, construction, reconstruction, enlargement, improvement, and repair of bridges, culverts, retaining walls, viaducts, underpasses, grade crossing separations, and approaches thereto.
  - f. The settlement, adjustment, renewing, or extension of any part or all of the legal indebtedness of a city, whether evidenced by bonds, warrants, or judgments, or the funding or refunding of the same, whether or not such indebtedness was created for a purpose for which general obligation bonds might have been issued in the original instance.
  - g. The undertaking of any project jointly or in cooperation with any other governmental body which, if undertaken by the city alone, would be for an essential corporate purpose, including the joint purchase, acquisition, construction, ownership, or control of any real or personal property.
  - h. The acquisition, construction, reconstruction, improvement, and extension of works and facilities useful for the control and elimination of any and all sources of air, water, and noise pollution, and the acquisition of real estate needed for such purposes.

*i.* The acquisition, construction, reconstruction, and improvement of all waterways, and real and personal property, useful for the protection or reclamation of property situated within the corporate limits of cities from floods or high waters, and for the protection of property in cities from the effects of flood waters, including the deepening, widening, alteration, change, diversion, or other improvement of watercourses, within or without the city limits, the construction of levees, embankments, structures, impounding reservoirs, or conduits, and the establishment, improvement, and widening of streets, avenues, boulevards, and alleys across and adjacent to the project, as well as the development and beautification of the banks and other areas adjacent to flood control improvements.

*j.* The equipping of fire, police, sanitation, street, and civil defense departments and the acquiring, developing, and improving of a geographic computer data base system suitable for automated mapping and facilities management.

*k.* The acquisition and improvement of real estate for cemeteries, and the construction, reconstruction, and repair of receiving vaults, mausoleums, and other cemetery facilities.

*l.* The acquisition of ambulances and ambulance equipment.

*m.* The reconstruction and improvement of dams already owned.

*n.* The reconstruction, extension, and improvement of an airport owned or operated by the city, an agency of the city, or a multimember governmental body of which the city is a participating member.

*o.* The rehabilitation and improvement of parks already owned, including the removal, replacement and planting of trees in the parks, and facilities, equipment, and improvements commonly found in city parks.

*p.* The rehabilitation and improvement of area television translator systems already owned.

*q.* The aiding in the planning, undertaking, and carrying out of urban renewal projects under the authority of chapter 403, and all of the purposes set out in section 403.12. However, bonds issued for this purpose are subject to the right of petition for an election as provided in section 384.26, without limitation on the amount of the bond issue or the size of the city, and the council shall include notice of the right of petition in the notice required under section 384.25, subsection 2.

*r.* The acquisition, construction, reconstruction, improvement, repair, and equipping of waterworks, water mains, and extensions, and real and personal property, useful for providing potable water to residents of a city.

*s.* The provision of insurance, or funding a self-insurance program or local government risk pool, including but not limited to the investigation and defense of claims, the establishment of reserve funds for claims, the payment of claims, and the administration and management of such self-insurance program or local government risk pool.

*t.* The acquisition, restoration, or demolition of abandoned, dilapidated, or dangerous buildings, structures or properties or the abatement of a nuisance.

*u.* The establishment or funding of programs to provide for or assist in providing for the acquisition, restoration, or demolition of housing, as part of a municipal housing project under chapter 403 or otherwise, or for other purposes as may be authorized under chapter 403A.

*v.* The acquisition of peace officer communication equipment and other emergency services communication equipment and systems.

*w.* The remediation, restoration, repair, cleanup, replacement, and improvement of property, buildings, equipment, and public facilities that have been damaged by a disaster as defined in section 29C.2 and that are located in

an area that the governor has proclaimed a disaster emergency or the president of the United States has declared a major disaster. Bonds issued pursuant to section 384.25 for the purposes specified in this paragraph shall be issued not later than ten years after the governor has proclaimed a disaster emergency or the president of the United States has declared a major disaster, whichever is later.

x. The reimbursement of the city's general fund or other funds of the city for expenditures made related to remediation, restoration, repair, and cleanup of damage caused by a disaster as defined in section 29C.2, if the damage is located in an area that the governor has proclaimed a disaster emergency or the president of the United States has declared a major disaster. Bonds issued pursuant to section 384.25 for the purposes specified in this paragraph shall be issued not later than ten years after the governor has proclaimed a disaster emergency or the president of the United States has declared a major disaster, whichever is later.

4. "General corporate purpose" means:

a. The acquisition, construction, reconstruction, extension, improvement, and equipping of city utilities, city enterprises, and public improvements as defined in section 384.37, other than those which are essential corporate purposes.

b. The acquisition, construction, reconstruction, enlargement, improvement, and equipping of community center houses, recreation grounds, recreation buildings, juvenile playgrounds, swimming pools, recreation centers, parks, and golf courses, and the acquisition of real estate therefor.

c. The acquisition, construction, reconstruction, enlargement, improvement, and equipping of city halls, jails, police stations, fire stations, garages, libraries, and hospitals, including buildings to be used for any combination of the foregoing purposes, and the acquisition of real estate therefor.

d. The acquisition, construction, reconstruction, and improvement of dams at the time of acquisition.

e. The removal, replacement, and planting of trees, other than those on public right-of-way.

f. The acquisition, purchase, construction, reconstruction, and improvement of greenhouses, conservatories, and horticultural centers for growing, storing, and displaying trees, shrubs, plants, and flowers.

g. The acquisition, construction, reconstruction, and improvement of airports at the time of establishment.

h. The undertaking of any project jointly or in cooperation with any other governmental body which, if undertaken by the city alone, would be for a general corporate purpose, including the joint purchase, acquisition, construction, ownership, or control of any real or personal property.

i. Any other purpose which is necessary for the operation of the city or the health and welfare of its citizens.

5. The "cost" of a project for an essential corporate purpose or general corporate purpose includes construction contracts and the cost of engineering, architectural, technical, and legal services, preliminary reports, property valuations, estimates, plans, specifications, notices, acquisition of real and personal property, consequential damages or costs, easements, rights-of-way, supervision, inspection, testing, publications, printing and sale of bonds, interest during the period or estimated period of construction and for twelve months thereafter or for twelve months after the acquisition date, and provisions for contingencies.

1. [C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(1)]
2. a. [C46, §390.1; C50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §390.1, 390.7; C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(2, a)]
  - b. [C35, §5903-f1; C39, §5903.12; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, §385.1; C71, 73, §378A.1, 385.1; C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(2, b)]
  - c. [R60, §1111; C73, §538; C97, §957; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §6742; C46, 50, §368.9, 420.53; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §368.30; C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(2, c)]
  - d. [S13, §741-w2; C24, 27, 31, §5902; C35, §5902, 6066-f2; C39, §5902, 6066.25; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §384.3, 394.2; C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(2, d)]
  - e. [C31, 35, §5903-c2; C39, §5903.02; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §330.2; C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(2, e)]
  - f. [S13, §1056-a61; SS15, §696-b; C24, 27, 31, §5746, 6592; C35, §5746, 6066-f1, 6066-f5, 6592; C39, §5746, 6066.24, 6066.28, 6592; C46, 50, §368.9, 394.1, 394.5, 416.120; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §368.24, 394.1, 394.5; C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(2, f)]
  - g. [C31, 35, §5899-c1; C39, §5899.01; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §383.1; C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(2, g)]
  - h. [C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(2, h)]
  - i. [C58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §386B.2; C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(2, i)]
  - j. [C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(2, j)]
  - k. [C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(2, k)]
3. a. [R60, §1064, 1097; C73, §464, 465, 527; C97, §751, 782; S13, §1056-a65; SS15, §751, 997-a, -c; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5938, 5951, 6608, 6744, 6746; C46, 50, §389.1, 389.20, 416.138, 420.55, 420.57; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §368.32, 389.1, 389.20, 408.17; C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(3, a)]
  - b. [R60, §1064; C73, §464; C97, §756; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5949; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §389.16; C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(3, b)]
  - c. [C73, §466; C97, §779; S13, §779; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5962; C46, 50, 54, 58, §389.31; C62, 66, 71, 73, §389.31, 391.1; C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(3, c)]
  - d. [S13, §1056-a63; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §6125, 6594; C46, 50, §396.22, 416.122; C54, 58, §396.22, 404.18; C62, 66, 71, 73, §396.22, 404.19; C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(3, d)]
  - e. [R60, §1097; C73, §527; C97, §757, 758; SS15, §758; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5874–5876; C46, 50, §381.1–381.3; C54, 58, 62, 66, §381.1; C71, 73, §381.1, 381.3; C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(3, e)]
  - f. [C97, §905; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §6252; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §408.1; C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(3, f)]
  - g. [C27, 31, 35, §6066-a1; C39, §6066.03; C46, 50, 54, §392.1; C58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §368.49, 392.1; C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(3, g)]
  - h. [C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(3, h)]
  - i. [SS15, §849-a; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §6080; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §395.1; C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(3, i)]
  - j. [C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §368.16; C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(3, j)]
  - k. [R60, §1060; C73, §458; C97, §697; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5750; C46, 50, §368.13; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §368.29; C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(3, k)]
  - l. [C66, 71, 73, §368.74; C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(3, l)]
  - m.–p. [C77, 79, 81, §384.24(3, m–p)]
  - q. [C75, §384.24(4, g); C77, 79, 81, §384.24(3, q)]
  - r. [82 Acts, ch 1089, §1]
4. a. [S13, §741-w2, 1306-b; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5902, 6239; C46, 50, §384.3, 407.3(1); C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §384.3, 390.13, 407.3(1); C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(4, a)]
  - b. [R60, §1111; C73, §538; C97, §852, 957; S13, §850-c; SS15, §879-r; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5793, 5830, 5844, 6239, 6742; C46, 50, §368.9, 370.7, 374.1, 377.1, 407.3(2, 3), 420.53; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §368.30, 370.7, 374.1, 377.1, 407.3(2, 3); C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(4, b)]

c. [R60, §1116; C73, §542; C97, §732, 735; S13, §668, 732, 741-r; SS15, §741-f; C24, 27, §5772, 6239; C31, §5772, 6239, 6600-c1; C35, §5772, 6239, 6579-f; C39, §5772, 6239, 6579.1; C46, 50, §368.40, 407.3(4–6), 416.107; C54, 58, 62, 66, §368.15, 368.41, 407.3(4–6); C71, 73, §368.15, 368.41, 407.3(4–6, 9); C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(4, c)]

d. [C27, 31, 35, 39, §6239; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §407.3(7); C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(4, d)]

e. [S13, §1056-a65; SS15, §997-a, -c; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §6608, 6744, 6746; C46, 50, §416.138, 420.55, 420.57; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §368.32; C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(4, e)]

f. [C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(4, f)]

g. [C77, 79, 81, §384.24(4, g)]

h. [C31, 35, §5766-c1; C39, §5766.2; C46, §368.31; C50, §368.31, 368.57, 392.1; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §368.12, 368.19, 392.1; C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(4, h)]

i. [C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(4, i)]

5. [C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.24(5)]

83 Acts, ch 90, §21; 86 Acts, ch 1211, §24; 87 Acts, ch 103, §6–8; 89 Acts, ch 182, §10; 89 Acts, ch 189, §3; 96 Acts, ch 1129, §86; 96 Acts, ch 1204, §36; 2001 Acts, ch 88, §1, 2; 2008 Acts, ch 1013, §2, 3; 2009 Acts, ch 100, §13, 21

### **384.24A Loan agreements.**

A city may enter into loan agreements to borrow money for any public purpose in accordance with the following terms and procedures:

1. A loan agreement entered into by a city may contain provisions similar to those sometimes found in loan agreements between private parties, including, but not limited to, the issuance of notes to evidence its obligations.

2. A provision of a loan agreement which stipulates that a portion of the payments be applied as interest is subject to chapter 74A. Other laws relating to interest rates do not apply. Chapter 75 is not applicable. A city utility or city enterprise is a separate entity under this section whether it is governed by the governing body of the city or another governing body.

3. The governing body shall follow substantially the same authorization procedure required for the issuance of general obligation bonds issued for the same purpose to authorize a loan agreement made payable from the debt service fund.

4. The governing body may authorize a loan agreement which is payable from the general fund if the loan agreement would not cause the total of scheduled annual payments of principal or interest or both principal and interest due from the general fund in any single future fiscal year with respect to all loan agreements in force on the date of the authorization to exceed ten percent of the last certified general fund budget amount in accordance with the following procedures:

a. The governing body must follow substantially the authorization procedures of section 384.25 to authorize a loan agreement for personal property which is payable from the general fund. The governing body must follow substantially the authorization procedures of section 384.25 to authorize a loan agreement for real property which is payable from the general fund if the principal amount of the loan agreement does not exceed the following limits:

(1) Four hundred thousand dollars in a city having a population of five thousand or less.

(2) Seven hundred thousand dollars in a city having a population of more than five thousand but not more than seventy-five thousand.

(3) One million dollars in a city having a population of more than seventy-five thousand.

b. The governing body must follow the following procedures to authorize a loan agreement for real property which is payable from the general fund if the principal amount of the loan agreement exceeds the limits set forth in paragraph "a":

(1) The governing body must institute proceedings to enter into a loan agreement payable from the general fund by causing a notice of the meeting to discuss entering into the loan agreement, including a statement of the principal amount and purpose of the loan agreement and the right to petition for an election, to be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation within the city at least ten days prior to the discussion meeting. No sooner than thirty days following the discussion meeting shall the governing body hold a meeting at which it is proposed to take action to enter into the loan agreement.

(2) If at any time before the end of the thirty-day period after which a meeting may be held to take action to enter into the loan agreement, a petition is filed with the clerk of the city in the manner provided by section 362.4, asking that the question of entering into the loan agreement be submitted to the registered voters of the city, the governing body shall either by resolution declare the proposal to enter into the loan agreement to have been abandoned or shall direct the county commissioner of elections to call a special election upon the question of entering into the loan agreement. However, for purposes of this paragraph, the petition shall not require signatures in excess of one thousand persons. The question to be placed on the ballot shall be stated affirmatively in substantially the following manner: Shall the city of ..... enter into a loan agreement in amount of \$..... for the purpose of .....? Notice of the election and its conduct shall be in the manner provided in section 384.26, subsections 2 through 4.

(3) If a petition is not filed or if a petition is filed and the proposition of entering into the loan agreement is approved at an election, the governing body may proceed and enter into the loan agreement.

5. The governing body may authorize a loan agreement payable from the net revenues of a city utility, combined utility system, city enterprise, or combined city enterprise by following the authorization procedures of section 384.83.

6. A loan agreement to which a city is a party or in which the city has a participatory interest is an obligation of a political subdivision of this state for the purposes of chapters 502 and 636, and is a lawful investment for banks, trust companies, building and loan associations, savings and loan associations, investment companies, insurance companies, insurance associations, executors, guardians, trustees, and any other fiduciaries responsible for the investment of funds.

87 Acts, ch 103, §9; 92 Acts, ch 1138, §5; 95 Acts, ch 67, §53; 2009 Acts, ch 100, §14, 21

### **384.26 General obligation bonds for general purposes.**

1. A city which proposes to carry out any general corporate purpose within or without its corporate limits, and to contract indebtedness and issue general obligation bonds to provide funds to pay all or any part of the costs of a project, must do so in accordance with the provisions of this division.

2. Before the council may institute proceedings for the issuance of bonds for a general corporate purpose, it shall call a special city election to vote upon the question of issuing the bonds. At the election the proposition must be submitted in the following form:

Shall the ..... (insert the name of the city) issue its bonds in an amount not exceeding the amount of \$..... for the purpose of .....?

3. Notice of the election must be given by publication as required by section 49.53 in a newspaper of general circulation in the city. At the election the ballot used for the submission of the proposition must be in substantially the form for submitting special questions at general elections.

4. The proposition of issuing general corporate purpose bonds is not carried or adopted unless the vote in favor of the proposition is equal to at least sixty percent of the total vote cast for and against the proposition at the election. If the proposition of issuing the general corporate purpose bonds is approved by the voters, the city may proceed with the issuance of the bonds.

5. *a.* Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection 2, a council may, in lieu of calling an election, institute proceedings for the issuance of bonds for a general corporate purpose by causing a notice of the proposal to issue the bonds, including a statement of the amount and purpose of the bonds, together with the maximum rate of interest which the bonds are to bear, and the right to petition for an election, to be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation within the city at least ten days prior to the meeting at which it is proposed to take action for the issuance of the bonds subject to the following limitations:

(1) In cities having a population of five thousand or less, in an amount of not more than four hundred thousand dollars.

(2) In cities having a population of more than five thousand and not more than seventy-five thousand, in an amount of not more than seven hundred thousand dollars.

(3) In cities having a population in excess of seventy-five thousand, in an amount of not more than one million dollars.

*b.* If at any time before the date fixed for taking action for the issuance of the bonds, a petition is filed with the clerk of the city in the manner provided by section 362.4, asking that the question of issuing the bonds be submitted to the registered voters of the city, the council shall either by resolution declare the proposal to issue the bonds to have been abandoned or shall direct the county commissioner of elections to call a special election upon the question of issuing the bonds. Notice of the election and its conduct shall be in the manner provided in the preceding subsections of this section.

*c.* If no petition is filed, or if a petition is filed and the proposition of issuing the bonds is approved at an election, the council may proceed with the authorization and issuance of the bonds.

[C73, §461; C97, §727, 741-4, 852-855; S13, §727, 741-q, -r, -v, -w2, 850-c, -e, -f, 1306-d, -e; SS15, §696-b, 741-f, -g, -h, 879-r, -s; C24, 27, §5793-5795, 5800-5804, 5902, 6241, 6244-6246, 6248; C31, 35, §5793-5795, 5800-5804, 5902, 5903-c5, 6241, 6244-6246, 6248; C39, §5793-5795, 5800-5804, 5902, 5903.05, 6241, 6244-6246, 6248, 6261.1; C46, 50, §330.7, 330.8, 370.7-370.9, 370.15-370.19, 384.3, 407.5, 407.8-407.10, 407.12, 408.11; C54, 58, 62, 66, §330.7, 370.7, 384.3, 390.13, 407.5, 407.8-407.10, 407.12; C71, 73, §330.7, 370.7, 378A.11, 384.3, 390.13, 407.5, 407.8-407.10, 407.12, 408A.1, 408A.2, 408A.6; C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.26]

92 Acts, ch 1138, §6; 95 Acts, ch 67, §53

## REVENUE FINANCING

**384.84 Rates and charges — billing and collection — contracts.**

1. to 5. Not reprinted.

6. A governing body may declare all or a certain portion of a city as a storm water drainage system district for the purpose of establishing, imposing, adjusting, and providing for the collection of rates as provided in this section. The ordinance provisions for collection of rates of a storm water drainage system may prescribe a formula for determination of the rates which may include criteria and standards by which benefits have been previously determined for special assessments for storm water public improvement projects under this chapter.

7. to 10. Not reprinted.

[C73, §471, 473, 475; C97, §720, 725, 749; S13, §720, 724, 725, 766-c; C24, 27, 31, §5892, 5898, 6130, 6142, 6143, 6159; C35, §5892, 5898, 5903-f3, 5903-f6, 6066-f5, 6066-f8, 6130, 6142, 6143, 6159; C39, §5892, 5898, 5903.14, 5903.17, 6066.28, 6066.32, 6130, 6142, 6143, 6159; C46, 50, 54, §381.19, 382.5, 385.3, 385.6, 390.4, 390.5, 394.5, 394.9, 397.4, 397.27, 397.28, 398.10; C58, §381.19, 382.5, 385.3, 385.6, 386B.8, 390.4, 390.5, 394.5, 394.9, 397.4, 397.27, 397.28, 398.10; C62, §381.15, 382.5, 385.3, 385.6, 386B.8, 390.4, 390.5, 392.11, 394.5, 394.9, 397.4, 397.27, 397.28; C66, §368.24, 381.19, 382.5, 385.3, 385.6, 386B.8, 390.4, 390.5, 392.11, 393.14, 394.5, 394.9, 397.4, 397.27, 397.28, 398.10; C71, 73, §368.24, 378A.7-378A.9, 381.19, 382.5, 385.3, 385.6, 386B.8, 390.4, 390.5, 392.11, 393.14, 394.5, 394.9, 397.4, 397.27, 397.28, 398.10; C75, 77, 79, 81, §384.84; 81 Acts, ch 128, §1]

83 Acts, ch 90, §27; 84 Acts, ch 1221, §1; 87 Acts, ch 109, §4; 88 Acts, ch 1246, §6; 90 Acts, ch 1206, §2; 90 Acts, ch 1211, §1; 93 Acts, ch 73, §4; 94 Acts, ch 1056, §2; 95 Acts, ch 49, §11; 95 Acts, ch 57, §9; 95 Acts, ch 67, §31; 97 Acts, ch 62, §3; 98 Acts, ch 1107, §15; 99 Acts, ch 149, §1, 2; 2000 Acts, ch 1085, §4; 2003 Acts, 1st Ex, ch 2, §19, 209; 2008 Acts, ch 1090, §1, 2; 2009 Acts, ch 72, §6; 2009 Acts, ch 133, §131, 132

**384.84A Special election.**

1. The governing body of a city may institute proceedings to issue revenue bonds for storm water drainage construction projects under section 384.84, subsection 6, by causing notice of the proposed project, with a description of the proposed project and a description of the formula for the determination of the rate or rates applied to users for payment of the bonds, and a description of the bonds and maximum rate of interest and the right to petition for an election if the project meets the requirement of subsection 2, to be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation within the city at least thirty days before the meeting at which the governing body proposes to take action to institute proceedings for issuance of revenue bonds for the storm water drainage construction project.

2. If, before the date fixed for taking action to authorize the issuance of revenue bonds for the storm water drainage construction project, a petition signed by eligible electors residing within the city equal in number to at least three percent of the registered voters of the city is filed, asking that the question of issuing revenue bonds for the storm water drainage construction project be submitted to the registered voters of the city, the council, by resolution, shall declare the project abandoned or shall direct the county commissioner of elections to call a special election upon the question of issuing the bonds for the storm water drainage construction project if the cost of the project and population of the city meet one of the following criteria:

a. The project cost is seven hundred fifty thousand dollars or more in a city having a population of five thousand or less.

*b.* The project cost is one million five hundred thousand dollars or more in a city having a population of more than five thousand but not more than seventy-five thousand.

*c.* The project cost is two million dollars or more in a city having a population of more than seventy-five thousand.

3. The proposition of issuing revenue bonds for a storm water drainage construction project under this section is not approved unless the vote in favor of the proposition is equal to a majority of the votes cast on the proposition.

4. If a petition is not filed, or if a petition is filed and the proposition is approved at an election, the council may issue the revenue bonds.

5. If a city is required by the federal environmental protection agency to file application for storm water sewer discharge or storm water drainage system under the federal Clean Water Act of 1987, this section does not apply to that city with respect to improvements and facilities required for compliance with EPA regulations, or any city that enters into a chapter 28E agreement to implement a joint storm water discharge or drainage system with a city that is required by the federal environmental protection agency to file application for storm water discharge or storm water drainage system.

90 Acts, ch 1206, §3; 95 Acts, ch 67, §53; 2001 Acts, ch 56, §33; 2002 Acts, ch 1119, §52

## CITY ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCIES

**392.1 Establishment by ordinance.**

If the council wishes to establish an administrative agency, it shall do so by an ordinance which indicates the title, powers, and duties of the agency, the method of appointment or election, qualifications, compensation, and term of members, and other appropriate matters relating to the agency. The title of an administrative agency must be appropriate to its function. The council may not delegate to an administrative agency any of the powers, authorities, and duties prescribed in division V of chapter 384 or in chapter 388, except that the council may delegate to an administrative agency established for the purpose of operating an airport any of its powers and duties prescribed in division V of chapter 384, and the council may delegate to an administrative agency power to establish and collect charges, and disburse the moneys received for the use of a city facility, including a city enterprise, as defined in section 384.24, if the delegation to an administrative agency is strictly subject to the limitations imposed by the revenue bonds or pledge orders outstanding which are payable from the revenues of the city enterprise. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the council may delegate rulemaking authority to the agency for matters within the scope of the agency's powers and duties, and may prescribe penalties for violation of agency rules which have been adopted by ordinance. Rules governing the use by the public of any city facility must be made readily available to the public.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §392.1]  
95 Acts, ch 21, §1

**392.5 Library board.**

A city library board of trustees functioning on the effective date of the city code shall continue to function in the same manner until altered or discontinued as provided in this section.

In order for the board to function in the same manner, the council shall retain all applicable ordinances, and shall adopt as ordinances all applicable state statutes repealed by 1972 Iowa Acts, chapter 1088.

A library board may accept and control the expenditure of all gifts, devises, and bequests to the library.

A proposal to alter the composition, manner of selection, or charge of a library board, or to replace it with an alternate form of administrative agency, is subject to the approval of the voters of the city.

The proposal may be submitted to the voters at any city election by the council on its own motion. Upon receipt of a valid petition as defined in section 362.4, requesting that a proposal be submitted to the voters, the council shall submit the proposal at the next regular city election. A proposal submitted to the voters must describe with reasonable detail the action proposed.

If a majority of those voting approves the proposal, the city may proceed as proposed.

If a majority of those voting does not approve the proposal, the same or a similar proposal may not be submitted to the voters of the city for at least four years from the date of the election at which the proposal was defeated.

[C97, §728, 729; S13, §729; SS15, §728; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5851, 5858; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §378.3, 378.10; C75, 77, 79, 81, §392.5]  
2001 Acts, ch 24, §49

**392.6 Hospital or health care facility trustees.**

1. If a hospital or health care facility is established by a city, the city shall by ordinance provide for the election, at a special election held pursuant to section 39.2, subsection 4, paragraph "b", of three trustees, whose terms of office shall be four years. However, at the first election, three shall be elected and hold their office, one for four years and two for two years, and they shall by lot determine their respective terms. A candidate for hospital or health care facility trustee must be a resident of the hospital or health care facility service area within the boundaries of the state at the time of the election at which the person's name appears on the ballot. A board of trustees elected pursuant to this section shall serve as the sole and only board of trustees for any and all institutions established by a city as provided for in this section.

2. The administration and management of an institution as provided for in this section is vested in a board of trustees consisting of three, five, or seven members. A three-member board may be expanded to a five-member board, and a five-member board may be expanded to a seven-member board. Expansion of the membership of the board shall occur only on approval of a majority of the current board of trustees. The additional members shall be appointed by the current board of trustees. One appointee shall serve until the next succeeding general or regular city election, at which time a successor shall be elected, and the other appointee shall serve until the second succeeding general or regular city election, at which time a successor shall be elected. The determination of which election an appointed additional member shall be required to seek election shall be determined by lot. Thereafter, the terms of office of such additional members shall be four years.

3. *a.* Terms of office of trustees elected pursuant to general or city elections shall begin at noon on the first day in January which is not a Sunday or legal holiday. Terms of office of trustees appointed to fill a vacancy or elected pursuant to special elections shall begin at noon on the tenth day after appointment or the special election which is not a Sunday or legal holiday. The trustees shall begin their terms of office by taking the oath of office, and organize as a board by the election of one trustee as chairperson, one trustee as treasurer, and one trustee as secretary. Terms of office of trustees shall extend to noon on the first day in January which is not a Sunday or legal holiday or until their successors are elected and qualified.

*b.* Vacancies on the board of trustees may, until the next general or regular city election, be filled in the same manner as provided in section 347.10. An appointment made under this paragraph shall be for the unexpired balance of the term of the preceding trustee. If a board member is absent for four consecutive regular board meetings, without prior excuse, the member's position shall be declared vacant and filled as set out in this paragraph.

4. A trustee shall not receive any compensation for services performed under this chapter, but a trustee shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred in performance of the trustee's duties.

5. The board of trustees shall be vested with authority to provide for the management, control, and government of the city hospital or health care facility established as permitted by this section, and shall provide all needed rules for the economic conduct thereof and shall annually prepare a condensed statement of the total receipts and expenditures for the hospital or health care facility and cause the same to be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the city in which the hospital or health care facility is located.

6. Boards of trustees of institutions provided for in this section are granted all of the powers and duties necessary for the management, control and government of the institutions, specifically including but not limited to any applicable powers and duties granted boards of trustees under other provisions of the Code relating to hospitals, nursing homes, assisted or independent living services, and other ancillary services irrespective of the chapter of the Code under which such institutions are established, organized, operated, or maintained, unless such provisions are in conflict with this section.

[S13, §741-o, -p; C24, §5867-5871; C27, 31, 35, §5867, 5867-a1, 5868-5871; C39, §5867, 5867.1, 5868-5871; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, §380.1-380.6; C71, 73, §380.1-380.6, 380.16; C75, 77, 79, 81, §392.6]

94 Acts, ch 1034, §1; 96 Acts, ch 1080, §1, 2; 99 Acts, ch 36, §11; 2000 Acts, ch 1015, §1; 2003 Acts, ch 9, §1, 2; 2009 Acts, ch 110, §16

BLANK

## HOTEL AND MOTEL TAX

**423A.1 Short title.**

This chapter may be cited as the “*Hotel and Motel Tax Act*”.  
2005 Acts, ch 140, §19, 28, 29

**423A.2 Definitions.**

For the purposes of this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

1. “*Department*” means the department of revenue.
2. “*Lessor*” means any person engaged in the business of renting lodging to users.
3. “*Lodging*” means rooms, apartments, or sleeping quarters in a hotel, motel, inn, public lodging house, rooming house, or manufactured or mobile home which is tangible personal property, or in a tourist court, or in any place where sleeping accommodations are furnished to transient guests for rent, whether with or without meals. Lodging does not include rooms that are not used for sleeping accommodations.
4. “*Person*” means the same as the term is defined in section 423.1.
5. “*Renting*” or “*rent*” means a transfer of possession or control of lodging for a fixed or indeterminate term for consideration and includes any kind of direct or indirect charge for such lodging or its use.
6. “*Sales price*” means the consideration for renting of lodging and means the same as the term is defined in section 423.1.
7. “*User*” means a person to whom lodging is rented.

All other words and phrases used in this chapter and defined in section 423.1 have the meaning given them by section 423.1 for the purposes of this chapter.

2005 Acts, ch 140, §20, 28, 29; 2009 Acts, ch 179, §137

**423A.4 Locally imposed hotel and motel tax.**

1. A city or county may impose by ordinance of the city council or by resolution of the board of supervisors a hotel and motel tax, at a rate not to exceed seven percent, which shall be imposed in increments of one or more full percentage points upon the sales price from the renting of lodging. The tax when imposed by a city shall apply only within the corporate boundaries of that city and when imposed by a county shall apply only outside incorporated areas within that county.

2. Within ten days of the election at which a majority of those voting on the question favors the imposition, repeal, or change in the rate of the hotel and motel tax, the county auditor shall give written notice by sending a copy of the abstract of votes from the favorable election to the director of revenue.

3. A local hotel and motel tax shall be imposed on January 1 or July 1, following the notification of the director of revenue. Once imposed, the tax shall remain in effect at the rate imposed for a minimum of one year. A local hotel and motel tax shall terminate only on June 30 or December 31. At least forty-five days prior to the tax being effective or prior to a revision in the tax rate or prior to the repeal of the tax, a city or county shall provide notice by mail of such action to the director of revenue. The director shall have the authority to waive the notice requirement.

4. *a.* A city or county shall impose or repeal a hotel and motel tax or increase or reduce the tax rate only after an election at which a majority of those voting on the question favors imposition, repeal, or change in rate. However, a hotel and motel tax shall not be repealed or reduced in rate if obligations are outstanding which are payable as provided in section 423A.7, unless funds sufficient to pay the principal, interest, and premium, if any, on the outstanding obligations at and prior to maturity have been properly set aside and pledged for that purpose.

*b.* If the tax applies only within the corporate boundaries of a city, only the registered voters of the city shall be permitted to vote. The election shall be held at the time of the regular city election or at a special election called for that purpose. If the tax applies only in the unincorporated areas of a county, only the registered voters of the unincorporated areas of the county shall be permitted to vote. The election shall be held at the time of the general election or at a special election called for that purpose.

2005 Acts, ch 140, §22; 2007 Acts, ch 186, §24; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §105

#### **423A.7 Local transient guest tax fund.**

1. to 3. Not reprinted.

4. The revenue derived from any local hotel and motel tax authorized by section 423A.4 shall be used as follows:

*a.* to *e.* Not reprinted.

*f.* A city or county acting on behalf of an unincorporated area may, in lieu of calling an election, institute proceedings for the issuance of bonds under this section by causing a notice of the proposal to issue the bonds, including a statement of the amount and purpose of the bonds, together with the maximum rate of interest which the bonds are to bear, and the right to petition for an election, to be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation within the city or unincorporated area at least ten days prior to the meeting at which it is proposed to take action for the issuance of the bonds.

If at any time before the date fixed for taking action for the issuance of the bonds a petition signed by eligible electors residing in the city or the unincorporated area equal in number to at least three percent of the registered voters of the city or unincorporated area is filed, asking that the question of issuing the bonds be submitted to the registered voters of the city or unincorporated area, the council or board of supervisors acting on behalf of an unincorporated area shall either by resolution declare the proposal to issue the bonds to have been abandoned or shall direct the county commissioner of elections to call a special election upon the question of issuing the bonds.

The proposition of issuing bonds under this section is not approved unless the vote in favor of the proposition is equal to a majority of the vote cast.

If no petition is filed, or if a petition is filed and the proposition of issuing the bonds is approved at an election, the council or board of supervisors acting on behalf of an unincorporated area may proceed with the authorization and issuance of the bonds.

Bonds may be issued for the purpose of refunding outstanding and previously issued bonds under this section without otherwise complying with this paragraph.

2005 Acts, ch 140, §25

9. In a county that has imposed a local option sales and services tax, the board of supervisors shall, notwithstanding any contrary provision of this chapter, repeal the local option sales and services tax in the unincorporated areas or in an incorporated city area in which the tax has been imposed upon adoption of its own motion for repeal in the unincorporated areas or upon receipt of a motion adopted by the governing body of that incorporated city area requesting repeal. The board of supervisors shall repeal the local option sales and services tax effective on the later of the date of the adoption of the repeal motion or the earliest date specified in section 423B.6, subsection 1. For purposes of this subsection, incorporated city area includes an incorporated city which is contiguous to another incorporated city.

10. Notwithstanding subsection 9 or any other contrary provision of this chapter, a local option sales and services tax shall not be repealed or reduced in rate if obligations are outstanding which are payable as provided in section 423B.9, unless funds sufficient to pay the principal, interest, and premium, if any, on the outstanding obligations at and prior to maturity have been properly set aside and pledged for that purpose.

85 Acts, ch 32, §89; 85 Acts, ch 198, §6

CS85, §422B.1

86 Acts, ch 1199, §2–6; 89 Acts, ch 146, §1; 89 Acts, ch 276, §1; 90 Acts, ch 1256, §21; 92 Acts, ch 1063, §1; 93 Acts, ch 143, §50; 95 Acts, ch 67, §53; 95 Acts, ch 186, §1–4, 9; 96 Acts, ch 1079, §22, 23; 99 Acts, ch 156, §5–11, 23; 2000 Acts, ch 1058, §36; 2002 Acts, ch 1119, §166; 2003 Acts, ch 145, §286; 2003 Acts, 1st Ex, ch 2, §203, 205

C2005, §423B.1

2006 Acts, ch 1158, §52–54; 2007 Acts, ch 186, §25; 2008 Acts, ch 1115, §68, 71; 2008 Acts, ch 1191, §65

#### **423B.2 Local vehicle tax.**

An annual local vehicle tax at the rate per vehicle specified on the ballot proposition may be imposed by a county on every vehicle which is required to be registered by the state and is registered with the county treasurer to a person residing within the county where the tax is imposed at the time of the renewal of the registration of the vehicle. The local vehicle tax shall be imposed only on the renewals of registrations and shall be payable during the registration renewal periods provided under section 321.40.

The county imposing the tax shall provide for the exemption of each class, if any, of vehicles for which an exemption was listed on the ballot proposition.

For the purpose of the tax authorized by this section, “*person*” and “*registration year*” mean the same as defined in section 321.1, and “*vehicle*” means motor vehicle as defined in section 321.1 which is subject to registration under section 321.18, and which is registered with the county treasurer.

85 Acts, ch 32, §90

CS85, §422B.2

2003 Acts, 1st Ex, ch 2, §203, 205

C2005, §423B.2

#### **423B.3 Administration of local vehicle tax.**

A local vehicle tax or change in the rate shall be imposed January 1 immediately following a favorable election for registration years beginning on or after that date and the repeal of the tax shall be as of December 31 following a favorable election for registration years beginning after that date.

Local officials shall confer with the director of the department of transportation for assistance in drafting the ordinance imposing a local vehicle tax. A certified copy of the ordinance shall be filed with the director as soon as possible after passage. The director shall inform the appropriate county treasurers and provide assistance to them for the collection of all local vehicle taxes and any penalties, crediting local vehicle tax receipts excluding penalties to a “*local vehicle tax fund*” established in the office of the county treasurer. From the local vehicle tax fund, the treasurer shall remit monthly, by direct deposit in the same manner as provided in section 384.11, to each city in the county the amount collected from residents of the city during the preceding calendar month and to the county the amount collected from the residents of the unincorporated area during the preceding calendar month. Moneys received by a city or county from this fund shall be credited to the general fund of the city or county to be used solely for public transit or shall be credited to the street construction fund of that city or the secondary road fund of that county to be used for the purposes specified in section 312.6. Any penalties collected shall be credited to the county general fund to be used to defray the cost to the county of administering the local vehicle tax.

85 Acts, ch 32, §91

CS85, §422B.3

2003 Acts, 1st Ex, ch 2, §203, 205

C2005, §423B.3

#### **423B.5 Local sales and services tax.**

A local sales and services tax at the rate of not more than one percent may be imposed by a county on the sales price taxed by the state under chapter 423, subchapter II. A local sales and services tax shall be imposed on the same basis as the state sales and services tax or in the case of the use of natural gas, natural gas service, electricity, or electric service on the same basis as the state use tax and shall not be imposed on the sale of any property or on any service not taxed by the state, except the tax shall not be imposed on the sales price from the sale of motor fuel or special fuel as defined in chapter 452A which is consumed for highway use or in watercraft or aircraft if the fuel tax is paid on the transaction and a refund has not or will not be allowed, on the sales price from the sale of equipment by the state department of transportation, or on the sales price from the sale or use of natural gas, natural gas service, electricity, or electric service in a city or county where the sales price from the sale of natural gas or electric energy is subject to a franchise fee or user fee during the period the franchise or user fee is imposed. A local sales and services tax is applicable to transactions within those incorporated and unincorporated areas of the county where it is imposed and shall be collected by all persons required to collect state sales taxes. All cities contiguous to each other shall be treated as part of one incorporated area and the tax would be imposed in each of those contiguous cities only if the majority of those voting in the total area covered by the contiguous cities favors its imposition. In the case of a local sales and services tax submitted to the registered voters of two or more contiguous counties as provided in section 423B.1, subsection 4, paragraph “c”, all cities contiguous to each other shall be treated as part of one incorporated area, even if the corporate boundaries of one or more of the cities include areas of more than one county, and the tax shall be imposed in each of those contiguous cities only if a majority of those voting on the tax in the total area covered by the contiguous cities favored its imposition.

## ASSESSMENT AND VALUATION OF PROPERTY

**441.17 Duties of assessor.**

The assessor shall:

1. Devote full time to the duties of the assessor's office and shall not engage in any occupation or business interfering or inconsistent with such duties. This subsection does not preclude an assessor from being a candidate for elective office during the term of appointment as assessor. If an assessor is elected to a city or county office, to a statewide elective office, or to the general assembly, the assessor shall resign as assessor before the beginning of the term of the office to which the assessor was elected.

2. to 11. Not reprinted.

[C51, §474, 475; R60, §735, 736; C73, §824, 825; C97, §1355, 1359, 1366; S13, §1355, 1366; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §7108, 7114, 7122, 7123; C46, §441.3, 441.9, 441.17, 441.18; C50, 54, 58, §405A.8, 441.4, 441.9, 441.12; C62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §441.17]

83 Acts, ch 64, §2; 87 Acts, ch 84, §1; 89 Acts, ch 296, §61; 94 Acts, ch 1110, §20, 24; 2001 Acts, ch 153, §15, 16; 2001 Acts, ch 176, §80; 2002 Acts, ch 1088, §1, 2; 2003 Acts, ch 145, §286

## TAX COLLECTION

**445.1 Definition of terms.**

Unnumbered paragraph 1 not reprinted.

1. and 2. Not reprinted.

3. "*County system*" means a method of data storage and retrieval as approved by the auditor of state including, but not limited to, tax lists, books, records, indexes, registers, or schedules.

4. to 7. Not reprinted.

[R60, §751; C73, §846; C97, §1390; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §7184; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §445.1]

86 Acts, ch 1139, §2; 91 Acts, ch 191, §26; 92 Acts, ch 1163, §85; 93 Acts, ch 73, §5; 95 Acts, ch 57, §11; 2001 Acts, ch 153, §15; 2001 Acts, ch 176, §80

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

**455A.4 General powers and duties of the director.**

1. Except as otherwise provided by law and subject to rules adopted by the natural resource commission and the environmental protection commission, the director shall:

*a.* to *f.* Not reprinted.

*g.* Not be a candidate for nor hold any other public office or trust, nor be a member of a political committee.

*h.* to *j.* Not reprinted.

2. to 5. Not reprinted.

86 Acts, ch 1245, §1804; 90 Acts, ch 1105, §1; 90 Acts, ch 1108, §2; 91 Acts, ch 154, §1; 92 Acts, ch 1160, §22; 2003 Acts, ch 145, §262; 2004 Acts, ch 1132, §89; 2005 Acts, ch 137, §1; 2006 Acts, ch 1010, §117; 2007 Acts, ch 211, §37; 2009 Acts, ch 155, §19, 34

**468.511 Votes determined by assessment.**

1. When a petition asking for the right to vote in proportion to assessment of benefits at all elections for any purpose thereafter to be held within said district, signed by a majority of the landowners owning land within said district assessed for benefits, is filed with the board of trustees, then, in all elections of trustees thereafter held within said district, any person whose land is assessed for benefits without regard to age, sex, or condition shall be entitled to one vote for each ten dollars or fraction thereof of the original assessment under the current classification against the land actually owned by the person in said district at the time of the election, but in order to have such ballot counted for more than one vote the voter shall write the voter's name upon the ballot. The vote of any landowner of the district may be cast by absent voters ballot as provided in chapter 53 except that the form of the applications for ballots, the voters' affidavits on the envelopes, and the endorsement of the carrier envelope for preserving the ballot shall be substantially in the form provided in subsections 2, 3 and 4, below. Application blanks, envelopes and ballots shall be provided by and submitted to the office of the county auditor in which the election is held. The cost of such blanks, envelopes, ballots and postage shall be paid by the district. For the purpose of this subchapter all landowners of the district shall be considered qualified voters, regardless of their place of residence.

2. For the purpose of this subchapter, applications for ballots shall be made on blanks substantially in the following form:

Application for ballot to be voted at the  
..... (Name of District) District Election  
on ..... (Date)

State of ..... )  
..... County ) ss.

I, ..... (Applicant), do solemnly swear that I am a landowner in the ..... (Name of District) District and that I am a duly qualified voter entitled to vote in said election, and I hereby make application for an official ballot or ballots to be voted by me at such election, and that I will return said ballot or ballots to the officer issuing same before the day of said election.

Signed .....  
Date .....  
Residence (street number if any) .....  
City ..... State .....

Subscribed and sworn to before me this ..... day of ..... (month),  
..... (year)

3. For the purpose of this subchapter, the affidavit on the reverse side of the envelopes used for enclosing the marked ballots shall be substantially as follows:

State of ..... )  
..... County ) ss.

I, ..... (Applicant), do solemnly swear that I am a landowner in the ..... (Name of District) District and that I am a duly qualified voter to vote in the election of trustees of said district and that I have marked the enclosed ballot in secret.

Signed .....

Subscribed and sworn to before me this ..... day of ..... (month), ..... (year), and that I hereby certify that the affiant exhibited the enclosed ballot to me unmarked; that the affiant then in my presence and in the presence of no other person and in such manner that I could not see the affiant's vote, marked such ballot, enclosed and sealed the same in this envelope; and that the affiant was not solicited or advertised by me for or against any candidate or measure.

.....  
.....  
(Official Title)

4. For the purposes of this subchapter, upon receipt of the ballot, the auditor shall at once enclose the same, unopened, together with the application made by the voter in a large carrier envelope, securely seal the same, and endorse thereon over the auditor's official signature, the following:  
a. Name of the district in which the voter is a landowner.  
b. Date of the election for which the ballot is cast.  
c. Location of the polling place at which the ballot would be legally and properly cast if voted in person.  
d. Names of the judges of the election of that polling place, and the statement that this envelope contains an absent voters ballot and must be opened only at the polls on election day while said polls are opened.

[SS15, §1989-a73; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §7685; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §462.12]  
89 Acts, ch 126, §2  
CS89, §468.511  
2000 Acts, ch 1058, §63; 2009 Acts, ch 57, §95

## PUBLIC UTILITY REGULATION

**476.23 Electric service conflicts — certificates of authority.**

1. An electric utility shall not construct or extend facilities or furnish or offer to furnish electric service to the existing point of delivery of any customer already receiving electric service from another electric utility without having first filed with the board the express written agreement of the electric utility presently serving this customer, except as otherwise provided in this section. Any municipal corporation, after being authorized by a vote of the people, or any electric utility may file a petition with the board requesting a certificate of authority to furnish electric service to the existing point of delivery of any customer already receiving electric service from another electric utility. If, after notice by the board to the electric utility currently serving the customer, objection to the petition is not filed and investigation is not deemed necessary, the board shall issue a certificate within thirty days of the filing of the petition. When an objection is filed, if the board, after notice and opportunity for hearing, determines that service to the customer by the petitioner is in the public interest, including consideration of any unnecessary duplication of facilities, it shall grant this certificate in whole or in part, upon such terms, conditions, and restrictions as may be justified. Whether or not an objection is filed, any certificate issued shall require that the petitioner pay to the electric utility presently serving the customer, the reasonable price for facilities serving the customer. This price determination by the board shall include due consideration of the cost of the facilities being acquired; any necessary generating capacity and transmission capacity dedicated to the customer, including, but not limited to, electric power generating facilities and alternate energy production facilities not yet in service but for which the board has issued an order pursuant to section 476.53, and electric power generating facility emissions plan budgets approved by the board pursuant to section 476.6, subsection 21; depreciation; loss of revenue; and the cost of facilities necessary to reintegrate the system of the utility after detaching the portion sold.

2. to 4. Not reprinted.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, §490A.23, 490A.24; C77, 79, 81, §476.23]

2003 Acts, ch 29, §1, 6

## UNDERGROUND FACILITIES INFORMATION

**480.3 Notification center established — participation.**

1. and 2. Not reprinted.

3. Every operator shall participate in and share in the costs of the notification center. The financial condition and the transactions of the notification center shall be audited at least once each year by a certified public accountant. The notification center shall not provide any form of aid or make a contribution to a political party or to the campaign of a candidate for political or public office. In addition to any applicable civil penalty, as provided in section 480.6, a violation of this section constitutes a simple misdemeanor.

87 Acts, ch 135, §3; 92 Acts, ch 1103, §3; 95 Acts, ch 112, §1; 98 Acts, ch 1049, §1; 2002 Acts, ch 1054, §1; 2004 Acts, ch 1049, §191; 2004 Acts, ch 1175, §393

3. Within thirty days after a county magistrate appointing commission receives notification of an actual or impending vacancy in the office of district associate judge, other than a vacancy referred to in subsection 2, the commission shall certify to the chief judge of the judicial district the names of three applicants who are nominated by the commission for the vacancy. The commission shall publicize notice of the vacancy in at least two publications in the official county newspaper. The commission shall accept applications for consideration for nomination as district associate judge for a minimum of fifteen days prior to certifying nominations. The commission shall consider the applications and shall, by majority vote, certify to the chief judge of the judicial district the names of three applicants who are nominated by the commission for the vacancy. If there are three or fewer applicants the commission shall certify all applicants who meet the statutory qualifications. Nominees shall be chosen solely on the basis of the qualifications of the applicants, and political affiliation shall not be considered. As used in this subsection, a vacancy is created by the death, retirement, resignation, or removal of a district associate judge, or by an increase in the number of positions authorized.

4. Within fifteen days after the chief judge of a judicial district has received the list of nominees to fill a vacancy in the office of district associate judge, the district judges in the judicial election district shall, by majority vote, appoint one of those nominees to fill the vacancy.

5. A district associate judge who seeks to resign from the office of district associate judge shall notify in writing the chief judge of the judicial district as to the district associate judge's intention to resign and the effective date of the resignation. The chief judge of the judicial district, upon receipt of the notice, shall notify the county magistrate appointing commission and the state court administrator of the actual or impending vacancy in the office of district associate judge due to resignation.

6. The supreme court may prescribe rules of procedure to be used by county magistrate appointing commissions when exercising the duties specified in this section.

83 Acts, ch 186, §7304, 10201; 86 Acts, ch 1015, §4; 98 Acts, ch 1115, §13; 2003 Acts, ch 151, §41, 64

Option to delay for up to 180 days, for budgetary reasons, certification of nominees for a district associate judgeship for the period beginning March 16, 2009, and ending June 30, 2010; 2009 Acts, ch 170, §54, 55; 2009 Acts, ch 179, §172, 173

### **602.6305 Term, retention, qualifications.**

1. District associate judges shall serve initial terms and shall stand for retention in office within the judicial election districts of their residences at the judicial election under sections 46.16 through 46.24.

2. A person does not qualify for appointment to the office of district associate judge unless the person is at the time of appointment a resident of the county in which the vacancy exists, licensed to practice law in Iowa, and will be able, measured by the person's age at the time of appointment, to complete the initial term of office prior to reaching age seventy-two. An applicant for district associate judge shall file a certified application form, to be provided by the supreme court, with the chairperson of the county magistrate appointing commission.

3. A district associate judge must be a resident of a county in which the office is held during the entire term of office. A district associate judge shall serve within the judicial district in which appointed, as directed by the chief judge, and is subject to reassignment under section 602.6108.

4. District associate judges shall qualify for office as provided in chapter 63 for district judges.

83 Acts, ch 186, §7305, 10201; 86 Acts, ch 1015, §5; 89 Acts, ch 114, §2; 89 Acts, ch 212, §2; 89 Acts, ch 296, §83; 2003 Acts, ch 151, §42; 2004 Acts, ch 1101, §83, 99, 102

**602.6403 Appointment, qualification, and resignation of magistrates.**

1. By June 1 of each year in which magistrates' terms expire, the county magistrate appointing commission shall appoint, except as otherwise provided in section 602.6302, the number of magistrates apportioned to the county by the state court administrator under section 602.6401, the number of magistrates required pursuant to substitution orders in effect under section 602.6303, and may appoint an additional magistrate when allowed by section 602.6402. The commission shall not appoint more magistrates than are authorized for the county by this article.

2. The magistrate appointing commission for each county shall prescribe the contents of an application, in addition to any application form provided by the supreme court, for an appointment pursuant to this section. The commission shall publicize notice of any vacancy to be filled in at least two publications in all official county newspapers in the county. The commission shall accept applications for a minimum of fifteen days prior to making an appointment, and shall make available during that period of time any printed application forms the commission prescribes.

3. Within thirty days following receipt of notification of a vacancy in the office of magistrate, the commission shall appoint a person to the office to serve the remainder of the unexpired term. For purposes of this section, vacancy means a death, resignation, retirement, or removal of a magistrate, or an increase in the number of positions authorized.

4. The term of office of a magistrate is four years, commencing August 1, 1989. However, the terms of all magistrates in a county are deemed to expire if a substitution under section 602.6302 or the allocation under section 602.6401 results in a reduction in the number of magistrates in a county where the magistrates hold office.

5. The commission shall promptly certify the names and addresses of appointees to the clerk of the district court and to the chief judge of the judicial district. The clerk of the district court shall certify to the state court administrator the names and addresses of these appointees.

6. Before assuming office, a magistrate shall subscribe and file in the office of the state court administrator the oath of office specified in section 63.6.

7. Before the commencement of the term of a magistrate, the members of the magistrate appointing commission may reconsider the appointment. Written notification of the reasons for reconsideration and time and place for the meeting must be sent to the magistrate appointee and the clerk of the district court. The commission may reconvene and decertify the magistrate appointee for good cause. Notice of the decertification and a statement of the reasons justifying the decertification shall be promptly sent to the clerk of the district court, the chief judge of the judicial district, and the state court administrator.

5. A full-time associate juvenile judge who seeks to resign from the office of full-time associate juvenile judge shall notify in writing the chief judge of the judicial district as to the full-time associate juvenile judge's intention to resign and the effective date of the resignation. The chief judge of the judicial district, upon receipt of the notice, shall notify the county magistrate appointing commission and the state court administrator of the actual or impending vacancy in the office of full-time associate juvenile judge due to resignation.

6. The supreme court may prescribe rules of procedure to be used by county magistrate appointing commissions when exercising the duties specified in this section.

99 Acts, ch 93, §9, 15; 99 Acts, ch 208, §61; 2003 Acts, ch 151, §44, 64

Option to delay for up to 180 days, for budgetary reasons, certification of nominees for an associate juvenile judgeship for the period beginning March 16, 2009, and ending June 30, 2010; 2009 Acts, ch 170, §54, 55; 2009 Acts, ch 179, §172, 173

**602.7103C Full-time associate juvenile judges — term, retention, qualifications.**

1. Full-time associate juvenile judges shall serve terms and shall stand for retention in office within the judicial election districts of their residences as provided under sections 46.16 through 46.24.

2. A person does not qualify for appointment to the office of full-time associate juvenile judge unless the person is at the time of appointment a resident of the county in which the vacancy exists, licensed to practice law in Iowa, and will be able, measured by the person's age at the time of appointment, to complete the initial term of office prior to reaching age seventy-two. An applicant for full-time associate juvenile judge shall file a certified application form, to be provided by the supreme court, with the chairperson of the county magistrate appointing commission.

3. A full-time associate juvenile judge must be a resident of a county in which the office is held during the entire term of office. A full-time associate juvenile judge shall serve within the judicial district in which appointed, as directed by the chief judge, and is subject to reassignment under section 602.6108.

4. Full-time associate juvenile judges shall qualify for office as provided in chapter 63 for district judges.

99 Acts, ch 93, §10, 15

BLANK

## PROBATE CODE

## PROBATE COURT

**633.20B Appointment and resignation of full-time associate probate judges.**

1. Full-time associate probate judges shall be appointed by the district judges of the judicial election district from persons nominated by the county magistrate appointing commission. In the case of a full-time associate probate judge to be appointed to more than one county, the appointment shall be from persons nominated by the county magistrate appointing commissions acting jointly and in the case of a full-time associate probate judge to be appointed to more than one judicial election district of the same judicial district, the appointment shall be by a majority of the district judges in each judicial election district.

2. In November of any year in which an impending vacancy is created because a full-time associate probate judge is not retained in office pursuant to a judicial election, the county magistrate appointing commission shall publicize notice of the vacancy in at least two publications in the official county newspaper. The commission shall accept applications for consideration for nomination as full-time associate probate judge for a minimum of fifteen days prior to certifying nominations. The commission shall consider the applications and shall, by majority vote, certify to the chief judge of the judicial district not later than December 15 of that year the names of three applicants who are nominated by the commission for the vacancy. If there are three or fewer applicants, the commission shall certify all applicants who meet the statutory qualifications. Nominees shall be chosen solely on the basis of the qualifications of the applicants, and political affiliation shall not be considered.

3. Within thirty days after a county magistrate appointing commission receives notification of an actual or impending vacancy in the office of full-time associate probate judge, other than a vacancy referred to in subsection 2, the commission shall certify to the chief judge of the judicial district the names of three applicants who are nominated by the commission for the vacancy. The commission shall publicize notice of the vacancy in at least two publications in the official county newspaper. The commission shall accept applications for consideration for nomination as full-time associate probate judge for a minimum of fifteen days prior to certifying nominations. The commission shall consider the applications and shall, by majority vote, certify to the chief judge of the judicial district the names of three applicants who are nominated by the commission for the vacancy. If there are three or fewer applicants, the commission shall certify all applicants who meet the statutory qualifications. Nominees shall be chosen solely on the basis of the qualifications of the applicants, and political affiliation shall not be considered. As used in this subsection, a vacancy is created by the death, retirement, resignation, or removal of a full-time associate probate judge, or by an increase in the number of positions authorized.

4. Within fifteen days after the chief judge of a judicial district has received the list of nominees to fill a vacancy in the office of full-time associate probate judge, the district judges in the judicial election district shall, by majority vote, appoint one of those nominees to fill the vacancy.

5. A full-time associate probate judge who seeks to resign from the office of full-time associate probate judge shall notify in writing the chief judge of the judicial district as to the full-time associate probate judge's intention to resign and the effective date of the resignation. The chief judge of the judicial district,

upon receipt of the notice, shall notify the county magistrate appointing commission and the state court administrator of the actual or impending vacancy in the office of full-time associate probate judge due to resignation.

6. The supreme court may prescribe rules of procedure to be used by county magistrate appointing commissions when exercising the duties specified in this section.

99 Acts, ch 93, §13, 15; 99 Acts, ch 208, §62; 2003 Acts, ch 151, §51, 64

Option to delay for up to 180 days, for budgetary reasons, certification of nominees for an associate probate judgeship for the period beginning March 16, 2009, and ending June 30, 2010; 2009 Acts, ch 170, §54, 55; 2009 Acts, ch 179, §172, 173

**633.20C Full-time associate probate judges — term, retention, qualifications.**

1. Full-time associate probate judges shall serve terms and shall stand for retention in office within the judicial election districts of their residences as provided under sections 46.16 through 46.24.

2. A person does not qualify for appointment to the office of full-time associate probate judge unless the person is at the time of appointment a resident of the county in which the vacancy exists, licensed to practice law in Iowa, and will be able, measured by the person's age at the time of appointment, to complete the initial term of office prior to reaching age seventy-two. An applicant for full-time associate probate judge shall file a certified application form, to be provided by the supreme court, with the chairperson of the county magistrate appointing commission.

3. A full-time associate probate judge must be a resident of a county in which the office is held during the entire term of office. A full-time associate probate judge shall serve within the judicial district in which appointed, as directed by the chief judge, and is subject to reassignment under section 602.6108.

4. Full-time associate probate judges shall qualify for office as provided in chapter 63 for district judges.

99 Acts, ch 93, §14, 15

# INDEX

## **ABSENTEE VOTING AND ABSENT VOTERS**

*General provisions*, 53.1–53.35A

Armed forces members, absentee voting by, 46.18, 53.37–53.53

Definition of absentee ballot, 39.3(1)

Drainage and levee district trustee elections, absentee voting in,  
468.511, 468.512

Judicial elections, absentee voting in, 46.18, 46.23

Optical scan voting systems, 52.33

## **ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

Political activity restrictions for director of department, 8A.102

## **ADVANCE FUNDING AUTHORITY**

Political activity restrictions for executive director of authority, 257C.7

## **ADVERTISING**

Political advertising, 68A.405, 68A.406

## **AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION DISTRICTS AND COUNCILS**

Elections of members of councils, 39.21, 49.31, 176A.5–176A.8, 176A.16

Establishment of districts, 176A.4

Tax levy and revenue limits, question to voters, 176A.10

## **AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY FINANCE CORPORATIONS**

Political activity restrictions for corporations, 15E.208

## **AGRICULTURE, SECRETARY OF**

*See SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE*

## **AIRPORT COMMISSIONS**

Establishment and abolition of commissions, 330.17–330.19,  
331.381(11), 331.382(1i)

## **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DIVISION AND ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES COMMISSION**

Political activity restrictions for administrator and employees of division  
and members of commission, 123.10, 123.17

## **ANNEXATIONS**

Cities, proposal to voters, 368.19

Sanitary districts, 358.26–358.29

## **AREA HOSPITALS**

*See HOSPITALS AND HOSPITAL SERVICES*

## **AREA SCHOOLS**

*See COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND MERGED AREAS*

## **ARMED FORCES**

Voting by members of armed forces, *see VOTING AND VOTERS*,  
*subhead Military Forces*

**ASSESSORS**

Candidacy for and election to public office, 441.17

**ATTORNEY GENERAL**

*See also STATE OFFICERS*

*General provisions*, Const Iowa V §12; 39.8, 39.9

Political activity restrictions for consumer advocate, 475A.1

**ATTORNEYS, COUNTY**

*See COUNTIES*

**AUDITOR OF STATE**

*See also STATE OFFICERS*

*General provisions*, Const Iowa IV §22; 39.8, 39.9

**AUDITORS, COUNTY**

*See COUNTIES*

**BALLOTS**

*General provisions*, Const Iowa II §6

Absentee ballots, *see ABSENTEE VOTING AND ABSENT VOTERS*

Australian ballot system use in primary elections, 43.36

City election ballots, publication of, 376.5

Defective ballots, 49.101, 49.102

Destruction of ballots, 50.13, 50.15

Drainage and levee district trustee elections, 468.514

Form, 49.30–49.41, 49.57, 49.57A

Judicial elections, 46.21

Magistrate appointing commission member elections, 602.6504

Marking of ballots, 49.92–49.103

Names on ballots, arrangement of, 49.31

Optical scan voting systems, *see VOTING AND VOTERS, subhead Optical Scan Voting Systems*

Preservation of ballots, 50.12

Primary election ballots

Form, 43.27–43.31, 43.36

Vacancies, 43.77

Write-in candidates, 43.53, 43.54, 43.66

Printing of ballots

*General provisions*, 49.57, 49.57A

Cost, 49.56

Purchasing, 47.5

Publication of ballots, 49.53, 376.5

Spoiled ballots, 49.100

Write-in votes, *see WRITE-IN VOTES*

**BANKS AND BANKING**

Creation of banking entities by legislative Acts, submission to voters, Const Iowa VIII §5, 6

**BENEFITED DISTRICTS**

Drainage districts, *see DRAINAGE AND LEVEE DISTRICTS*

Emergency medical services districts, *see EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES*

Emergency response districts, indebtedness authorizations for, 357J.16

Fire districts, bond issues for joint buildings with cities, counties, fire districts, and school districts, 28E.41

**BENEFITED DISTRICTS** — Continued

Hours for voting at elections in benefited districts, 49.73(1d)

Law enforcement districts, *see* **LAW ENFORCEMENT DISTRICTS**Levee districts, *see* **DRAINAGE AND LEVEE DISTRICTS**Real estate improvement districts, *see* **REAL ESTATE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS**Recreational lake districts, *see* **RECREATIONAL LAKE DISTRICTS**

Rural improvement zones, trustee elections for, 357H.5, 357H.6

Sanitary districts, *see* **SANITARY DISTRICTS**Secondary road services districts, *see* **SECONDARY ROAD SERVICES DISTRICTS**Street lighting districts, *see* **STREET LIGHTING DISTRICTS**Water districts, *see* **WATER DISTRICTS**Water quality districts, *see* **WATER QUALITY DISTRICTS****BETTING (GAMBLING GAMES)***See* **GAMBLING GAMES****BETTING ON ELECTIONS**

Criminal offense, 725.10, 725.15

**BLIND PERSONS**

Assistance in voting, 49.90

**BOARDS FOR ELECTIONS**

Counting boards, ch 51

Precinct boards, 49.12–49.20

**BOATS**

Gambling game operation on boats, county referendums on, 99F.7

**BONDS AND BOND ISSUES***General provisions*, 75.1

## Cities

*General provisions*, 75.1

General obligation bonds, 384.24, 384.26

Joint buildings of cities and counties, 346.27(10)

Joint buildings with cities, counties, fire districts, and school districts, 28E.41

Joint financing of facilities, 28E.16

Memorial buildings and monuments, 37.6

Revenue bonds, 384.84A

Transit systems, joint agencies for, support by cities, 28E.17

Zoos and zoological gardens, 394.1–394.3

Community college merged areas, 260C.21

## Counties

*General provisions*, 75.1

General obligation bonds, 331.441, 331.442, 331.445–331.447

Joint buildings of cities and counties, 346.27(10)

Joint buildings with cities, counties, fire districts, and school districts, 28E.41

Joint financing of facilities, 28E.16

Memorial buildings and monuments, 37.6

Emergency medical services districts, 357F.11, 357G.11

Emergency response districts, 357J.16

Fire districts, joint buildings with cities, counties, fire districts, and school districts, 28E.41

Hospitals, area, 145A.17, 145A.18

Hotel and motel taxes, 423A.7

**BONDS AND BOND ISSUES — Continued**

Joint financing of facilities, 28E.16  
 Law enforcement districts, 357D.11  
 Local option sales and services tax revenue recipients, 423B.9  
 Memorial buildings and halls, 37.6  
 Monuments, 37.6  
 Recreational lake districts, 357E.11  
 School districts  
     *General provisions*, 75.1, 274.2, ch 296, 298.21  
     Buildings, 279.39, 298.21  
     Joint buildings with cities, counties, fire districts, and school districts, 28E.41  
     Principal and interest of bonds, tax levy to pay, 298.18, 298.18A  
     Special elections, *see SPECIAL ELECTIONS*  
 Secondary road services districts, 357I.12  
 Street lighting districts, 357C.10  
 Townships, 75.1  
 Transit systems, joint agencies for, city support, 28E.17  
 Water quality districts, 357E.11  
 Zoos and zoological gardens, city bond issues for, 394.1–394.3

**BRIBERY**

Public officers, bribery of, 722.1, 722.2  
 Voters and election officials, bribery of, criminal offenses and penalties for offenses, 39A.2(1d)

**CAMPAIGN FINANCE**

*General provisions*, ch 68A, 422.12J  
 Ethics and campaign disclosure board, 68B.32–68B.33  
 State office candidates, contributions from lobbyists to, reporting by lobbyists, 68B.37

**CANDIDATES FOR ELECTIONS**

Campaign finance and contributions, *see CAMPAIGN FINANCE*  
 County sheriffs deputies, leaves of absence for, 80F.1, 341A.18  
 Ethics, *see ETHICS*  
 Financial disclosure, 68B.35  
 Gifts, acceptance and receipt of, 68B.22  
 Libel of candidates, retraction of, 659.4  
 Loans from lobbyists, prohibition, 68B.24  
 Primary elections, *see PRIMARY ELECTIONS*  
 Public employees, leaves of absence for, 55.4  
 Qualifications for candidates, 39.26

**CANVASSES OF VOTES**

*General provisions*, ch 50  
 City elections, 376.1  
 Constitutional amendments, 49A.8  
 County canvasses and boards of canvassers, 331.383  
 Drainage and levee district trustee elections, 468.516, 468.517  
 Executive council, canvasses by, *see subhead State Canvasses and Board of Canvassers below*  
 Governor and lieutenant governor elections, 2.27–2.30, 50.31  
 Primary elections  
     County, 43.49  
     State, 43.63  
 Public measures, 49A.8

**CANVASSES OF VOTES** — Continued

- School elections, 277.20
- Special elections, 50.46
- State canvasses and board of canvassers
  - General provisions*, 43.63, 50.37–50.40
  - Report, 7D.6

**CAUCUSES**

See *PRECINCT CAUCUSES*

**CERTIFICATES OF ELECTION**

- Delivery of certificates, 50.42
- Form of certificates, 50.29, 50.41, 50.43
- Special elections, 50.46

**CHARTERS**

- Cities, *see CITIES*
- Counties, *see COUNTIES*

**CITIES**

- General provisions*, 39.3(3), ch 376
- Additions of territory to cities, proposal to voters, 368.19
- Administrative agencies of cities, election method for, 392.1, 392.5, 392.6
- Airport commissions, establishment and abolition of, 330.17–330.19, 331.381(11), 331.382(1i)
- Annexations of territory to cities, proposal to voters, 368.19
- Assessors, candidacy for and election to public office, 441.17
- Ballots, publication of, 376.5
- Bond issues, *see BONDS AND BOND ISSUES*
- Boundary adjustments
  - See also subhead Consolidations of Governments Involving Cities below*
  - Proposal to voters, 368.19
- Bridges, tax levies for construction and purchase of, 384.12(5–7)
- Buildings of cities
  - Bond issues, *see BONDS AND BOND ISSUES, subhead Cities*
  - Conveyance of joint city-county buildings to incorporating units, 346.27(25)
- Candidates for elections, *see CANDIDATES FOR ELECTIONS*
- Capital improvements funds, establishment of, question to voters, 384.7
- Charters
  - Home rule charters, 372.3, 372.9–372.11
  - Special charters and special charter cities, elections in, *see subhead Special Charters and Special Charter Cities below*
- Civil service commissions, abolition of, 400.3
- Combinations of governments involving cities, *see subhead Consolidations of Governments Involving Cities below*
- Commission form of city government, 372.5
- Community clusters, tax revenue sharing in, referendums, 28E.39
- Community commonwealths, 331.260–331.263
- Consolidations of governments involving cities
  - See also subhead Boundary Adjustments above*
  - Community commonwealths, 331.260–331.263
  - Counties and cities, 331.247–331.252
  - Metropolitan corporation governments, ch 373
- Contesting of city elections, 376.10
- Council-manager-at-large form of city government, 372.6, 372.8
- Council-manager-ward form of city government, 372.7, 372.8

**CITIES** — Continued

## Councils

*See also subhead Officers of Cities below*

*General provisions, 372.13*

Newly incorporated cities, election of councils in, 368.21

County-city consolidations, 331.247–331.252

County-city facilities, bond issues for, 28E.16

Cultural facilities, operation of, tax levies for, 384.12(4)

## Debts

Bonds and bond issues, *see BONDS AND BOND ISSUES, subhead Cities*

Loan agreements, cities entering into, question to voters, 384.24A

Deletions of territory from cities, proposal to voters, 368.19

Development actions, *see subhead Boundary Adjustments above*

Devises of institutions to cities, maintenance of institutions, tax levies for, 384.12(17)

Discontinuances of cities, proposal to voters, 368.3, 368.19

Drainage districts including cities, trustee elections in, 468.327, 468.500–468.523

Electric power facilities, joint financing of, proposal to voters, 28F.1

Emergency medical services districts, *see EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES*

Employees of cities, *see PUBLIC EMPLOYEES*

Establishment of cities, proposal to voters, 368.19

Forms of city government, *see subhead Government Organization Forms below*

Franchise elections, *see FRANCHISE ELECTIONS*

Gifts of institutions to cities, maintenance of institutions, tax levies for, 384.12(17)

Golf courses, joint financing of, proposal to voters, 28F.1

## Government organization forms

Changes in form, 372.2, 372.9, 372.11

Commission, 372.5

Community commonwealths, 331.260–331.263

Consolidated metropolitan corporations, ch 373

Council-manager-at-large, 372.6, 372.8

Council-manager-ward, 372.7, 372.8

Home rule charter, 372.3, 372.9–372.11

Mayor-council, 372.4

Special charter, 372.12

Health care facilities, trustee elections for, 392.6

Home rule charters, adoption and amendment of, 372.3, 372.9, 372.11

Hospitals and hospital services, elections relating to, *see HOSPITALS AND HOSPITAL SERVICES*

Hotel and motel tax elections, *see TAXES*

Hours for voting at city elections, 49.73(1b, c)

## Incorporations of cities

Amendments to acts of incorporation, question to voters, 420.286–420.288

Proposal to voters, 368.19

Indebtedness, *see subhead Debts above*

Joint facilities, financing of, bond issues for, 28E.16, 28F.1

Law enforcement districts, tax levies for, 28E.22, 28E.25, 28E.28A, 28E.28B

League of cities, political activity by, restrictions, 364.5

Leases and lease-purchase contracts, cities entering into, question to voters, 364.4

Levies of taxes, *see TAXES, subhead City Tax Elections*

Library services, *see LIBRARIES*

Loan agreements, cities entering into, question to voters, 384.24A

Mayor-council form of city government, 372.4

**CITIES** — Continued

## Mayors

*See also subhead Officers of Cities below*

*General provisions, 372.14*

Newly incorporated cities, election of mayors in, 368.21

Memorial buildings and halls, *see MEMORIAL BUILDINGS AND HALLS*

Mergers of governments involving cities, *see subhead Consolidations of Governments Involving Cities above*

Metropolitan service areas, regional, establishment of, 28E.40

Monuments, *see MONUMENTS*

Musical groups, tax levies for support of, 384.12(1)

Name changes for cities, question to voters, 368.2

Nominations of candidates for elections, 376.3

Notices of city elections, publication of, 362.3

## Officers of cities

*See also subheads Councils; Mayors above*

*See also PUBLIC OFFICERS*

*General provisions, 39.3(3), 39.20, ch 376*

Candidates for elections, *see CANDIDATES FOR ELECTIONS*

Vacancies in office, filling of, 372.13(2)

Organization of city government, *see subhead Government Organization Forms above*

Petitions from voters, validity of, 362.4

Polling places, *see VOTING AND VOTERS, subhead Polling Places*

Precincts, *see PRECINCTS*

Primary elections, 376.1, 376.6, 376.7

Property of cities, *see subhead Buildings of Cities above*

Property tax elections, *see TAXES, subhead City Tax Elections*

Public measures, 47.6(3), 362.11

Regional metropolitan service areas, establishment of, 28E.40

Runoff elections, 49.11(2), 376.9

Scientific facilities, operation of, tax levies for, 384.12(4)

Severances of territory, proposal to voters, 368.19

## Special charters and special charter cities

*General provisions, 420.41*

Adoption of special charter form prohibited, 372.12

Amendments to charters and incorporation acts, question to voters, 420.286–420.288

Ballot vacancies in special charter cities, filling of, 43.116

Nominations of candidates for elections in special charter cities, 43.112, 376.3

Nonpartisan elections, conduct by special charter cities, question to voters, 43.112

Political party conventions, delegates, and committees, 420.126–420.137

Special elections, *see SPECIAL ELECTIONS*

Storm water drainage systems, revenue bond issues for, 384.84A

Swimming pools, joint financing of, proposal to voters, 28F.1

Symphony orchestras, tax levies for support of, 384.12(3)

Tax elections, *see TAXES*

Terminations of cities, proposal to voters, 368.19

Transit systems, joint agencies for, bond issues for, 28E.17

Transportation companies, public, tax levies for aid for, 384.12(9)

Utilities, *see UTILITIES*

Wards, 49.3(4), 372.13(7)

Waste management systems, joint financing of, proposal to voters, 28F.1

Water supply systems, joint financing of, proposal to voters, 28F.1

Water utilities, joint, establishment of, proposal to voters, 389.2

Zoos and zoological gardens, *see ZOOS AND ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS*

**CITIZENS' AIDE**

Political activity restrictions for citizens' aide and staff, 2C.7

**CLERKS OF DISTRICT COURT**

See *COURTS AND COURT OFFICIALS*, subhead *District Court Clerks*

**COMBINED RECREATIONAL FACILITY AND WATER QUALITY DISTRICTS**

Bond issues by and indebtedness of districts, authorizations for, 357E.11

Tax levies for districts, 357E.8

Trustees of districts, elections of, 357E.8, 357E.9

**COMBINED WATER AND SANITARY DISTRICTS**

Establishment of districts, 357.1B, 358.1B

**COMMISSIONER OF ELECTIONS, STATE**

*General provisions*, 39.3(16), ch 47

Training manual for election officials, 49.126

**COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS, COUNTY**

See also *COUNTIES*, subhead *Auditors, Elections and Election Duties of General provisions*, 39.3(4), ch 47, 331.505

Open meetings and open records information provision to elected members of governmental bodies, 21.10

Training course for election personnel, 49.124–49.126

Voter registration duties, see *VOTING AND VOTERS*, subhead *Registration of Voters and Registered Voters*

**COMMISSIONERS OF (VOTER) REGISTRATION**

See *VOTING AND VOTERS*, subhead *Registration of Voters and Registered Voters*

**COMMUNITY CLUSTERS**

Tax revenue sharing, referendums on, 28E.39

**COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND MERGED AREAS**

(*Map showing boundaries of Iowa community college merged areas, see page M-25*)

*General provisions*, 39.3(14), ch 277

Bond issues, 260C.21

Combination of merged areas, question to voters, 260C.39

Construction and improvement of facilities, tax levies for, vote by merged area voters, 260C.22

Debts, incurrence of, proposition to voters, 260C.21

Directors of merged areas, elections and election districts, 39.24, 260C.5(2), 260C.11–260C.13, 260C.15

Program sharing, property tax for, question to voters, 260C.28

Special elections, see *SPECIAL ELECTIONS*

**COMMUNITY COMMONWEALTHS**

*General provisions*, 331.260–331.263

**COMPETENCY TO VOTE**

See *VOTING AND VOTERS*

**COMPUTERS AND SOFTWARE**

Voting systems, *see VOTING AND VOTERS, subhead Optical Scan Voting Systems*

**CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS**

Certificates of election for United States senators and representatives, 50.43  
 Contesting of elections of United States senators and representatives, ch 60  
 Districts for United States representatives  
   (*Map showing boundaries of Iowa congressional districts, see page M-2*)  
   *General provisions*, Const Iowa III §37; ch 40  
   Redistricting, Const Iowa III §36, 37; ch 42  
 Election of United States senators, 39.10  
 Nomination of candidates for United States senate, 43.6  
 Vacancies in candidates on general election ballot, determination and filling of,  
   43.77, 43.78  
 Vacancies in office, filling of, 43.83, 69.8, 69.13

**CONSERVATION BOARDS, COUNTY**

Creation of boards, question to voters, 331.381(3), 350.2

**CONSERVATION DISTRICTS AND COMMISSIONERS**

*See SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS AND COMMISSIONERS*

**CONSOLIDATED METROPOLITAN CORPORATIONS**

Establishment of and elections of officers of corporations, ch 373

**CONSPIRACY**

Election misconduct and penalties, 39A.2(1e)

**CONSTITUTION OF IOWA**

Amendments to Constitution, submission to voters, Const Iowa X §1–3; ch 49A  
 Convention for revision of Constitution, question on holding of, submission to  
 voters, Const Iowa X §3; 39.4

**CONSUMER ADVOCATE**

Political activity restrictions for consumer advocate under attorney general,  
 475A.1

**CONTESTS OF ELECTIONS**

*General provisions*, ch 57  
 City offices, 376.10  
 Congresspersons, ch 60  
 County offices, ch 62  
 General assembly, Const Iowa III §7; ch 59  
 Governor, Const Iowa IV §5; ch 58  
 Lieutenant governor, Const Iowa IV §5  
 Presidential electors, ch 60  
 Public measures, 57.7  
 Qualification of successful parties, 63.4  
 Representatives, state, Const Iowa III §7; ch 59  
 Representatives, United States, ch 60  
 School elections, 277.22  
 Senators, state, Const Iowa III §7; ch 59  
 Senators, United States, ch 60  
 State offices, ch 61

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO CAMPAIGNS**

See *CAMPAIGN FINANCE*

**CONVENTIONS**

Constitutional conventions, question on holding of, submission to voters, Const Iowa X §3; 39.4

Political conventions, see *POLITICAL PARTIES AND ORGANIZATIONS*

**CORN PROMOTION BOARD**

Political activity restrictions for board, 185C.29

**CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT**

Political activity restrictions for corrections officers and director of department, 80F.1, 904.107

**CORRUPTION**

Criminal offenses and penalties for offenses, ch 39A, 722.1, 722.2

**COUNCILS, CITY**

See *CITIES*

**COUNTIES**

Agricultural extension districts and councils, see *AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION DISTRICTS AND COUNCILS*

Airport commissions, establishment and abolition of, 330.17–330.19, 331.381(11), 331.382(1i)

Assessors, candidacy for and election to public office, 441.17

Attorneys, elections and election duties of

See also *subhead Officers of Counties, Elections and Election Duties of, below General provisions*, 39.17, 331.751, 331.756

Multicounty offices of county attorney, election of, 331.753

Auditors, elections and election duties of

See also *subhead Officers of Counties, Elections and Election Duties of, below*

See also *COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS, COUNTY*

*General provisions*, 39.17, 280.9A, 331.501, 331.502, 331.508, 331.510

Benefited districts, see *BENEFITED DISTRICTS*

Board-elected executive form of county government, 331.239

Board-manager form of county government, 331.241–331.243

Boards of supervisors, elections and election duties of, see *subhead Supervisors, Boards of, Elections and Election Duties, below*

Bond issues, see *BONDS AND BOND ISSUES*

Boundary changes, Const Iowa III §30

Bridges, construction aid by cities, tax levies for, 384.12(5)

Buildings of counties

Bond issues, see *BONDS AND BOND ISSUES, subhead Counties*

Conveyance of joint city-county buildings to incorporating units, 346.27(25)

Candidates for elections, see *CANDIDATES FOR ELECTIONS*

Care facilities, establishment of, 331.382(1g), 347B.2

Charters

Adoption of charters, 331.232–331.238

Charter form of county government, 331.246

City-county consolidations, 331.247–331.252

City-county facilities, bond issues for, 28E.16

**COUNTIES** — Continued

- Combinations of county governments and offices
  - Consolidations of governments, *see subhead Consolidations of Governments Involving Counties below*
  - Elections on combining of offices, 331.323
  - Multicounty officers, *see subhead Multicounty Governments and Officers below*
- Commissioners of elections, *see COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS, COUNTY*
- Community clusters, tax revenue sharing in, referendums, 28E.39
- Community commonwealths, 331.260–331.263
- Conservation boards, creation of, question to voters, 331.381(3), 350.2
- Consolidations of governments involving counties
  - Cities and counties, 331.247–331.252
  - Community commonwealths, 331.260–331.263
  - Multicounty consolidations, 331.253–331.257
- Courthouses, open on election day, 49.123
- Debts
  - Bonds and bond issues, *see BONDS AND BOND ISSUES, subhead Counties*
  - Loan agreements, counties entering into, question to voters, 331.402(3)
- Drainage and levee districts, *see DRAINAGE AND LEVEE DISTRICTS*
- Electric power facilities, joint financing of, proposal to voters, 28F.1
- Emergency communications systems (E911), surcharges for, referendums, 34A.6, 34A.6A, 34A.7(7)
- Emergency medical services, *see EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES*
- Emergency response districts, bond issues and indebtedness authorizations, 357J.16
- Employees of counties, *see PUBLIC EMPLOYEES*
- Enterprise commissions, establishment of, 331.461, 331.471
- Excursion boat gambling games, operation of, referendums, 99F.7
- Executives, elected, 331.239
- Fairs, bond issues by, 174.17
- Flood control districts, organization, financing, and operation of, 161F.6
- Forms of county government, *see subhead Government Organization Forms below*
- Gambling game operation on excursion boats and at pari-mutuel racetracks, referendums on, 99F.7
- Golf courses, joint financing of, proposal to voters, 28F.1
- Government organization forms
  - Board-elected executive, 331.239
  - Board-manager, 331.241–331.243
  - Board of supervisors, 331.201–331.210
  - Changes and amendments to forms, 331.232–331.238, 331.244, 331.245
  - Charter government, 331.246
  - City-county consolidated, 331.247–331.252
  - Community commonwealths, 331.260–331.263
  - Multicounty consolidated, 331.253–331.257
- Homes, establishment of, 331.382(1g), 347B.2
- Hospitals and hospital services, elections relating to, *see HOSPITALS AND HOSPITAL SERVICES*
- Hotel and motel tax elections, *see TAXES*
- Indebtedness, *see subhead Debts above*
- Joint facilities, financing of, bond issues for, 28E.16, 28F.1
- Law enforcement districts, tax levies for, 28E.22, 28E.25, 28E.28A, 28E.28B
- Leases and lease-purchase contracts, counties entering into, question to voters, 331.301
- Levies of taxes, *see TAXES, subhead County Tax Elections*

**COUNTIES** — Continued

Library services, *see LIBRARIES*

Loan agreements, counties entering into, question to voters, 331.402(3)

Magistrate appointing commissions, members of, 602.6504

Memorial buildings and halls, *see MEMORIAL BUILDINGS AND HALLS*

Mental health centers, elections of trustees of, 230A.4, 230A.5

Mergers of governments involving counties, *see subhead Consolidations of Governments Involving Counties above*

Metropolitan service areas, regional, establishment of, 28E.40

Monuments, *see MONUMENTS*

Multicounty governments and officers

Attorneys, 331.753

Consolidations of county governments, *see subhead Consolidations of Governments Involving Counties above*

Sheriffs, 331.661

Nominations of candidates for elections, 43.6

Officers of counties, elections and election duties of

*See also subheads Attorneys, Elections and Election Duties of; Auditors, Elections and Election Duties of, above; Recorders, Elections and Election Duties of; Sheriffs and Deputy Sheriffs, Elections and Election Duties of; Supervisors, Boards of, Elections and Election Duties; Treasurers, Elections and Election Duties of, below*

*See also PUBLIC OFFICERS*

Candidates for elections, *see CANDIDATES FOR ELECTIONS*

Combining of offices, elections on, 331.323

Contesting of elections of county officers, ch 62

Nominations of candidates for elections, 43.6

Political activity restrictions for officers, *see POLITICAL ACTIVITIES*

Report of officers elected, 331.510(2)

Terms of office, 39.17, 39.18

Vacancies in office, filling of, 69.8, 69.14A, 331.322(3)

Organization of county government, *see subhead Government Organization Forms above*

Polling places, *see VOTING AND VOTERS, subhead Polling Places*

Precincts, *see PRECINCTS*

Property of counties, *see subhead Buildings of Counties above*

Property tax elections, *see TAXES, subhead County Tax Elections*

Public measures, 47.6(3), 331.309

Racetracks, gambling game operation at, referendums, 99F.7

Recorders, elections and election duties of

*See also subhead Officers of Counties, Elections and Election Duties of, above General provisions, 39.17, 331.601, 331.602*

Regional metropolitan service areas, establishment of, 28E.40

Sanitary districts, *see SANITARY DISTRICTS*

Secondary road services districts, *see SECONDARY ROAD SERVICES DISTRICTS*

Sheriffs and deputy sheriffs, elections and election duties of

*See also subhead Officers of Counties, Elections and Election Duties of, above General provisions, 39.17, 331.651, 331.653*

Multicounty offices of county sheriff, election of, 331.661

Political activity restrictions and leaves of absence for deputy sheriffs who are candidates for elective office, 80F.1, 341A.7, 341A.18

Soil and water conservation districts, *see SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS AND COMMISSIONERS*

Special elections, *see SPECIAL ELECTIONS*

**COUNTIES** — Continued

Supervisors, boards of, elections and election duties

*See also subhead Officers of Counties, Elections and Election Duties of, above General provisions, 39.18, 331.201, 331.383*

Districts, 49.3(4), 331.206–331.210A

Increase in membership, 331.203

Reduction in membership, 331.204

Representation plans, special election on, 331.207–331.210

Vacancies in office, filling of, 69.8, 331.214

Swimming pools, joint financing of, proposal to voters, 28F.1

Tax elections, *see TAXES*Townships, *see TOWNSHIPS*

Treasurers, elections and election duties of

*See also subhead Officers of Counties, Elections and Election Duties of, above General provisions, 39.17, 331.551, 331.552*Voter registration, *see VOTING AND VOTERS, subhead Registration of Voters and Registered Voters*Voting systems, *see VOTING AND VOTERS, subhead Optical Scan Voting Systems*

Waste management systems, joint financing of, proposal to voters, 28F.1

Water supply systems, joint financing of, proposal to voters, 28F.1

Zoos and zoological gardens of cities, contracts for use, question to voters, 394.4

**COUNTING BOARDS***General provisions, ch 51***COURTHOUSES**

Open on election day, 49.123

**COURT OF APPEALS JUDGES***See COURTS AND COURT OFFICIALS***COURTS AND COURT OFFICIALS**

Court of appeals judges

*See also JUDGES**General provisions, 602.5102*

District court clerks

*General provisions, 46.17–46.25, 602.1216*

Duties of clerks, 602.8102

District court judges

*See also JUDGES**General provisions, Const Iowa V §17; 602.6201, 602.6305*Districts for election of judges, *see subhead Districts for Judicial Elections below*

Districts for judicial elections

*(Map showing boundaries of Iowa judicial election districts, see page M-26)**General provisions, 602.6107, 602.6109*

Juvenile court judges

*See also JUDGES**General provisions, 602.7103B, 602.7103C*

Magistrate appointing commission members, election of, 602.6504

Probate court judges

*See also JUDGES**General provisions, 633.20B, 633.20C*

Supreme court justices

*See also JUDGES**General provisions, 602.4101*

**CRIMES AND CRIMINAL OFFENDERS**

Election misconduct and penalties for misconduct, ch 39A

Voting rights of criminal offenders, Const Iowa II §5; 48A.6, 48A.10, ch 914

**DAIRY INDUSTRY COMMISSION**

Political activity restrictions for commission, 179.14

**DEBTS**

Bonds and bond issues, *see BONDS AND BOND ISSUES*

Cities, *see CITIES*

Combined recreational facility and water quality districts, authorizations for indebtedness of, 357E.11

Community college merged areas, incurrence of debt by, proposition to voters, 260C.21

Counties, *see COUNTIES*

Emergency medical services districts, authorizations for indebtedness of, 357F.11, 357G.11

Emergency response districts, authorizations for indebtedness of, 357J.16

Law enforcement districts, authorizations for indebtedness of, 357D.11

Recreational lake districts, authorizations for indebtedness of, 357E.11

School districts, *see SCHOOL DISTRICTS*

Secondary road services districts, authorizations for indebtedness of, 357I.12

State of Iowa, debt contracted by, authorization by voters, Const Iowa VII §5

Street lighting districts, authorizations for indebtedness of, 357C.10

Water quality districts, authorizations for indebtedness of, 357E.11

**DISABILITIES AND DISABLED PERSONS**

Voting by persons with physical disabilities, *see VOTING AND VOTERS*,  
*subhead Disabled Persons*

**DISTRICT COURT JUDGES AND CLERKS**

*See COURTS AND COURT OFFICIALS*

**DISTRICTS**

Agricultural extension districts, *see AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION  
DISTRICTS AND COUNCILS*

Benefited districts, *see BENEFITED DISTRICTS*

City wards, 49.3(4), 372.13(7)

Congressional districts, *see CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS*

County supervisor districts, 49.3(4), 331.206–331.210A

Drainage districts, *see DRAINAGE AND LEVEE DISTRICTS*

Emergency medical services districts, *see EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES*

Emergency response districts, indebtedness authorizations, 357J.16

Fire districts, bond issues for joint buildings with cities, counties, fire districts,  
and school districts, 28E.41

Flood control districts, organization, financing, and operation of, 161F.6

Historical preservation districts, *see HISTORICAL PRESERVATION  
DISTRICTS AND DISTRICT COMMISSIONS*

Judicial election districts, *see COURTS AND COURT OFFICIALS*, *subhead  
Districts for Judicial Elections*

Land use districts, *see LAND USE DISTRICTS*

Law enforcement districts, *see LAW ENFORCEMENT DISTRICTS*

Legislative districts, *see GENERAL ASSEMBLY*, *subhead Districts*

Levee districts, *see DRAINAGE AND LEVEE DISTRICTS*

Library districts, *see LIBRARIES*

Real estate improvement districts, *see REAL ESTATE IMPROVEMENT  
DISTRICTS*

**DISTRICTS — Continued**

Recreational facility and water quality combined districts, *see COMBINED RECREATIONAL FACILITY AND WATER QUALITY DISTRICTS*

Recreational lake districts, *see RECREATIONAL LAKE DISTRICTS*

Rural improvement zones, elections of trustees, 357H.5, 357H.6

Sanitary districts, *see SANITARY DISTRICTS*

School districts, *see SCHOOL DISTRICTS*

Secondary road services districts, *see SECONDARY ROAD SERVICES DISTRICTS*

Soil and water conservation districts, *see SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS AND COMMISSIONERS*

Water and sanitary combined districts, establishment of, 357.1B, 358.1B

Water districts, *see WATER DISTRICTS*

Water quality districts, *see WATER QUALITY DISTRICTS*

**DRAINAGE AND LEVEE DISTRICTS**

Dissolution of contained districts, 468.259, 468.261

Trustees of districts, elections of, 468.327, 468.500–468.523

**DRUG POLICY COORDINATOR**

Political affiliation and political activity restrictions for coordinator, 80E.1

**EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

Professional staff, appointment without reference to political affiliation, 256.10

**EGG COUNCIL**

Political activity restrictions for council, 184.11

**ELDERLY PERSONS**

Voting by elderly persons, *see VOTING AND VOTERS, subhead Elderly Persons*

**ELECTORS**

*See VOTING AND VOTERS*

**ELECTRIC POWER FACILITIES**

Establishment and financing of joint undertakings for facilities, 28F.1

**EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS (E911 SERVICE)**

Surcharges for systems, referendums on, 34A.6, 34A.6A, 34A.7(7)

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATIONS**

Political activity restrictions for employees of organizations, 29C.16

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

Benefited districts, elections related to

Bond issues by and indebtedness of districts, authorizations for, 357F.11

Tax levies for districts, 357F.8

Trustees of districts, 357F.8, 357F.9

City districts, elections related to

Bond issues by and indebtedness of districts, authorizations for, 357G.11

Tax levies for districts, 357G.8, 384.12(19)

Trustees of districts, 357G.8, 357G.9

Political activity rights and restrictions for emergency medical technicians employed by public agencies, 80F.1

Taxes for services, local option, 422D.1, 422D.3, 422D.5

**EMERGENCY RESPONSE DISTRICTS**

Bond issues by and indebtedness of districts, authorizations for, 357J.16

**ENTERPRISE COMMISSIONS, COUNTY**

Establishment of commissions, 331.461, 331.471

**ETHICS**

Board for ethics and campaign finance, 68B.32–68B.33

Candidates for elections

Financial disclosure, 68B.35

Gifts and loans to candidates, 68B.22, 68B.24, 68B.25

**EXCURSION BOAT GAMBLING**

Conduct of gambling games, county referendums on, 99F.7

**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Canvasses of votes by executive council, *see CANVASSES OF VOTES, subhead State Canvasses and Board of Canvassers*

**FAIRS AND FAIRGROUNDS**

Bond issues by fairs, 174.17

**FEDERAL ELECTIONS**

*See CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS; PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS*

**FINANCE AUTHORITY**

Political activity restrictions for executive director of authority, 16.6

**FIRE PROTECTION**

Bond issues for joint buildings with cities, counties, fire districts, and school districts, 28E.41

Political activity rights and restrictions for fire fighters employed by public agencies, 80F.1

**FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICTS**

Organization, financing, and operation, 161F.6

**FRANCHISE ELECTIONS**

City franchise elections

*General provisions*, 364.2

Campaign expenditures by financial institutions, insurance companies, and corporations, 68A.503(1)

Rural water districts, franchises granted to, 357A.23

**FRAUD**

Election misconduct, criminal offenses and penalties for offenses, 39A.2(1a, b)

**GAMBLING GAMES**

Dog race breakage, organizations receiving, political activity restrictions, 99D.12

Excursion boats, gambling game operation on, county referendums on, 99F.7

**GAMBLING** — Continued

Horse race breakage, organizations receiving, political activity restrictions,  
99D.12

Pari-mutuel racetracks, gambling game operation at, county referendums on,  
99F.7

**GAMBLING ON ELECTIONS**

Criminal offense, 725.10, 725.15

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

*General provisions*, Const Iowa III §3–6; 39.15, 39.16

Banking entity creation, Acts submitted to voters, Const Iowa VIII §5, 6

Candidates for elections, *see CANDIDATES FOR ELECTIONS*

Citizens' aide and staff, political activity restrictions for, 2C.7

Contesting of elections for general assembly, Const Iowa III §7; ch 59

Districts

*(Maps showing boundaries of Iowa senatorial and representative districts, see pages M-3 through M-24)*

*General provisions*, Const Iowa III §34, 35; ch 41

Reapportionment and redistricting, Const Iowa III §34–36, 39; ch 42

Elections by general assembly, Const Iowa III §38; 2.25–2.30

Legislative services agency employees, political activity restrictions for, 2A.1

Number of members, Const Iowa III §6, 34, 35

Political activity restrictions for employees, 2A.1, 2C.7

Qualifications for holding office, Const Iowa III §4, 5

Reapportionment and redistricting, Const Iowa III §34–36, 39; ch 42

Terms of office, Const Iowa III §3, 5

Vacancies in general assembly

Filling, Const Iowa III §12; 69.14

Notice, 69.5, 331.510(1)

**GENERAL ELECTIONS**

*General provisions*, 39.3(7)

Time of holding, Const Iowa II §7; 39.1

Vacancies on ballots, determination and filling of, 43.77, 43.78

**GOLF COURSES**

Establishment and financing of joint undertakings for golf courses, 28F.1

**GOVERNOR**

*General provisions*, Const Iowa IV §2–4

Candidates for elections, *see CANDIDATES FOR ELECTIONS*

Canvasses of votes for governor, 2.25–2.30, 50.31

Contesting of elections for governor, Const Iowa IV §5; ch 58

Qualifications for holding office, Const Iowa IV §6; 63.5

Term of office, Const Iowa IV §2, 15; 39.8, 39.9

Vacancy in office of governor, filling of, Const Iowa IV §19

Voting rights restorations by governor, ch 914

**GUARDIANSHIPS**

Wards and persons under guardianships, competency to vote, determinations of,  
633.556(1), 633.679

**HEALTH CARE FACILITIES**

City facilities, trustees of, elections, 392.6

County care facilities, establishment of, 331.382(1g), 347B.2

Residents of facilities, absentee voting by, 53.8, 53.22, 135C.29

**HIGHWAYS**

Secondary road services districts, *see SECONDARY ROAD SERVICES DISTRICTS*

**HISTORICAL PRESERVATION DISTRICTS AND DISTRICT COMMISSIONS**

Elections of commissions, 303.26

Establishment of districts, referendums on, 303.20–303.25, 303.34

Termination of districts, referendums on, 303.33, 303.34

**HOSPITALS AND HOSPITAL SERVICES**

Area hospitals and trustees of hospitals

Bond issues, 145A.17, 145A.18

Elections of and terms of office for trustees, 145A.10, 145A.11, 347.25

Establishment of hospitals, county powers, 331.382(1c)

Mergers of political subdivisions to operate hospitals, orders submitted to voters, 145A.6–145A.9, 145A.21, 145A.22

Taxes, 145A.19

City hospitals and trustees of hospitals

Change of city hospitals to county hospitals, 331.381(12), 347.23, 347.23A

Elections of trustees, 392.6

County hospitals and trustees of hospitals

Bond issues, 331.461(2)

Elections of and terms of office for trustees, 39.21, 49.31, 347.9, 347.9A, 347.25, 347A.1

Memorial hospitals, change to county hospitals, 347.23A

Revenue bond-supported hospitals, *see subhead Revenue Bond-Supported County Hospitals and Trustees of Hospitals below*

Sales or leases of hospitals, 347.14

Tax levies for hospitals, alternative use of, 347.7

Vacancies in office, 347.10, 347A.1

Memorial hospitals, change to county hospitals, 347.23A

Merged area hospitals, *see subhead Area Hospitals and Trustees of Hospitals above*

Patients of hospitals, absentee voting by, 53.8, 53.22, 135C.29

Revenue bond-supported county hospitals and trustees of hospitals

Change to county hospitals, 347.23A

Elections of and terms of office for trustees, 39.21, 49.31, 347.25, 347A.1

Trustees of hospitals, elections of

Area hospitals, 145A.10, 145A.11, 347.25

City hospitals, 392.6

County hospitals, 39.21, 49.31, 347.9, 347.9A, 347.25, 347A.1

**HOTEL AND MOTEL TAXES**

*See TAXES*

**HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

Political activity restrictions for director of department, 217.5

**INCOME TAXES**

*See TAXES*

**INCOMPETENCY TO VOTE**

*See VOTERS AND VOTING*

**JOINT ENTITIES AND UNDERTAKINGS**

Establishment and financing of joint entities and undertakings, 28E.16, 28E.17, 28E.22, 28E.25, 28E.28A, 28E.28B, 28E.35, 28E.39–28E.41, 28F.1

**JUDGES**

*See also COURTS AND COURT OFFICIALS, subheads Court of Appeals Judges; District Court Judges; Juvenile Court Judges; Probate Court Judges; Supreme Court Justices*

*General provisions, Const Iowa V §17*

Ballot form, 46.21

Canvasses of votes, 46.24

Judicial nominating commissions, election of

*General provisions, 46.2, 46.2A, 46.4*

Ballot form, 46.9

Membership transition, 602.11111

Nominations, 46.9A, 46.10

Vacancies, filling of, 46.5

Voter eligibility, 46.7, 46.8, 602.8102(14)

Qualification for office, time and manner of, 63.6

Terms of office, 46.16

Time of elections, 46.17

Vacancies, notification of, 46.12, 602.8102(4)

Voting procedure, 46.22

**JUDICIAL ELECTIONS**

*See JUDGES*

**JUSTICES OF SUPREME COURT**

*See COURTS AND COURT OFFICIALS*

**JUVENILE COURT JUDGES**

*See COURTS AND COURT OFFICIALS*

**LAKE DISTRICTS**

*See COMBINED RECREATIONAL FACILITY AND WATER QUALITY DISTRICTS; RECREATIONAL LAKE DISTRICTS*

**LAND USE DISTRICTS**

Creation of districts, question to voters, 303.41, 303.42, 303.45–303.48

Trustees of districts, elections of, 303.49

**LAW ENFORCEMENT DISTRICTS**

Bond issues by and indebtedness of districts, authorizations for, 357D.11

Tax levies for districts, 28E.22, 28E.28A, 28E.28B, 331.381(1), 357D.8

Trustees of districts, elections of, 357D.8, 357D.9

**LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS**

Political activity rights and restrictions for officers employed by public agencies, 80F.1

**LEAGUE OF CITIES**

Political activity restrictions for league, 364.5

**LEASES AND LEASE-PURCHASES**

Cities entering into agreements, question to voters, 364.4

Counties entering into agreements, question to voters, 331.301

School districts, *see SCHOOL DISTRICTS*

**LEGISLATURE**

See *GENERAL ASSEMBLY*

**LEVEE DISTRICTS**

See *DRAINAGE AND LEVEE DISTRICTS*

**LEVIES OF TAXES**

See *TAXES*

**LIBEL**

Libel of candidates, retraction of, 659.4

**LIBRARIES**

City libraries and trustees of libraries

Alterations of boards of trustees, 392.5

Library districts, *see subhead Library Districts below*

Tax levies for support of libraries, 384.12(21)

Use of city libraries, contracts for, termination, 331.381(14), 336.18

County library services

Library districts, *see subhead Library Districts below*

Residents outside of cities, library services for, 331.381(14), 336.18

Library districts

Contracts for use of city libraries by districts, termination of, 331.381(14), 336.18

Establishment of districts, 331.381(14), 336.2

Termination of districts, 336.16

Withdrawal of cities and counties from districts, 336.16

School district libraries, tax levies for, discontinuance in reorganized districts, 298.7

**LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**

*General provisions*, Const Iowa IV §2–4

Candidates for elections, *see CANDIDATES FOR ELECTIONS*

Canvasses of votes for lieutenant governor, 2.25–2.30, 50.31

Contesting of elections for lieutenant governor, Const Iowa IV §5

Nominations of candidates for general elections, 43.123

Qualifications for holding office, Const Iowa IV §6; 63.5

Term of office, Const Iowa IV §2, 15; 39.8, 39.9

Vacancy in office of lieutenant governor, filling of, Const Iowa IV §19

**LOANS**

Cities entering into loan agreements, question to voters, 384.24A

Counties entering into loan agreements, question to voters, 331.402(3)

**LOBBYING AND LOBBYISTS**

Contributions by lobbyists to candidates for state office, reporting by lobbyists, 68B.37

**LOCAL OPTION TAXES**

See *TAXES*

**MACHINES USED FOR VOTING**

See *VOTING AND VOTERS*, *subhead Optical Scan Voting Systems*

**MAGISTRATE APPOINTING COMMISSIONS**

Elections of members of commissions, 602.6504

**MAPS**

Community college merged areas, *see page M-25*

Congressional districts, *see page M-2*

General assembly senatorial and representative districts, *see pages M-3 through M-24*

Judicial election districts, *see page M-26*

**MAYORS**

*See CITIES*

**MEDICAL SERVICES**

*See EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES*

**MEMORIAL BUILDINGS AND HALLS**

Construction and bond issues for construction of buildings and halls, propositions to voters, 37.1–37.4, 37.6

Memorial hospitals, change to county hospitals, 347.23A

Tax levies for buildings and halls in cities, 384.12(2)

**MENTAL HEALTH CENTERS**

Trustees of centers, elections of, 230A.4, 230A.5

**MENTAL RETARDATION, PERSONS WITH**

Competency of persons with mental retardation to vote, determinations of, 222.16, 222.31(3), 222.45

**MERGED AREA HOSPITALS**

*See HOSPITALS AND HOSPITAL SERVICES, subhead Area Hospitals and Hospital Trustees*

**MERGED AREA SCHOOLS**

*See COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND MERGED AREAS*

**METROPOLITAN SERVICE AREAS, REGIONAL**

Establishment of areas, 28E.40

**MILITARY FORCES**

Voting by members of military forces, *see VOTING AND VOTERS*

**MINORS**

Voting by emancipated minors, 232C.4

**MISCONDUCT**

Offenses and penalties, ch 39A

**MONUMENTS**

Construction and bond issues for construction of monuments, propositions to voters, 37.1–37.4, 37.6

Tax levies for monuments in cities, 384.12(2)

**MOTOR VEHICLE TAXES**

Local option taxes, 423B.1–423B.3

**MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS**

*See CITIES*

**NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**

Political activity restrictions for director of department, 455A.4

**NOMINATIONS OF CANDIDATES**

City elections, candidates for, 376.3

Petitions for nominations, 43.2, 43.121, 44.17, ch 45

Political parties and organizations, candidates of, *see* **POLITICAL PARTIES AND ORGANIZATIONS**

Primary elections, candidates for, *see* **PRIMARY ELECTIONS**

**NONPARTISAN ELECTIONS**

Agricultural extension council members, 39.21, 49.31

City officers, ch 376

Hospital trustees, 39.21, 49.31, 347.25

Mental health center trustees, 230A.4, 230A.5

Rural improvement zone trustees, 357H.6

Soil and water conservation district commissioners, 39.21, 49.31, 161A.5

Township officers, *see* **TOWNSHIPS, subheads Clerks; Trustees**

**NOTICES OF ELECTIONS**

*General provisions*, 49.53

Cities, 362.3

Counties, 331.305

**NURSING HOMES**

*See* **HEALTH CARE FACILITIES**

**OPTICAL SCAN VOTING SYSTEMS**

*See* **VOTING AND VOTERS**

**PAROLE OFFICERS**

Political activity rights and restrictions for parole officers, 80F.1

**PEACE OFFICERS**

Political activity rights and restrictions for officers employed by public agencies, 80F.1

**PETITIONS FOR ELECTIONS**

Cities, petitions to, validity, 362.4

Counties, petitions to, validity, 331.306

School districts, petitions to, validity, 277.7

**PETITIONS FOR NOMINATIONS**

*General provisions*, 43.2, 43.121, 44.17, ch 45

**PLATFORMS**

Political party platforms, 43.111

**POLITICAL ACTIVITIES**

Administrative services department director, restrictions on, 8A.102

Advance funding authority executive director, restrictions on, 257C.7

Advertising for political purposes, 68A.405, 68A.406

Agricultural industry finance corporations, restrictions on, 15E.208

Alcoholic beverages division and commission, restrictions on, 123.10, 123.17

Citizens' aide and staff of citizens' aide, restrictions on, 2C.7

**POLITICAL ACTIVITIES** — Continued

## City employees

*See also subhead Public Employees below*

Civil service employees, restrictions on, 400.29

Committees, *see* **POLITICAL PARTIES AND ORGANIZATIONS**

Consumer advocate, restrictions on, 475A.1

Contributions to political campaigns, *see* **CAMPAIGN FINANCE**

Corn promotion board, restrictions on, 185C.29

Corrections department director, restrictions on, 904.107

Corrections officers, rights and restrictions, 80F.1

County sheriffs deputies, 80F.1, 341A.7, 341A.18

Criminal offenses, 721.1–721.7

Dairy industry commission, restrictions on, 179.14

Deputy sheriffs, 80F.1, 341A.7, 341A.18

Dog race breakage recipient organizations, restrictions on, 99D.12

Drug policy coordinator, restrictions on, 80E.2

Egg council, restrictions on, 184.11

Emergency management organization employees, restrictions on, 29C.16

Emergency medical technicians, rights and restrictions, 80F.1

Finance authority executive director, restrictions on, 16.6

Fire fighters employed by public agencies, rights and restrictions, 80F.1

General assembly employees, restrictions on, 2A.1, 2C.7

Horse race breakage recipient organizations, restrictions on, 99D.12

Human services department director, restrictions on, 217.5

Law enforcement officers, rights and restrictions, 80F.1

League of cities, restrictions on, 364.5

Legislative services agency employees, restrictions on, 2A.1

Natural resources department director, restrictions on, 455A.4

Parole officers, rights and restrictions, 80F.1

Parties, *see* **POLITICAL PARTIES AND ORGANIZATIONS**

Peace officers, rights and restrictions, 80F.1

Pork producers council, restrictions on, 183A.14

Probation officers, rights and restrictions, 80F.1

Propane education and research council, restrictions on, 101C.7

## Public employees

*See also subheads City Employees above; State Employees below*

Leaves of absence for candidates for office, 55.4

Political contributions by organizations of employees, prohibitions, 20.26

Public employees' retirement system chief executive officer and employees, restrictions on, 97B.3, 97B.4

Public safety commissioner, restrictions on, 80.2

Revenue department director, restrictions on, 421.3

Sheep and wool promotion board, restrictions on, 182.18

Sheriffs deputies, 80F.1, 341A.7, 341A.18

Soybean association, restrictions on, 185.35

## State employees

*See also subhead Public Employees above*

Restrictions on state employees, 8A.416, 8A.418, 8A.458, 721.5

Tax review board, state, 421.1

Transportation department director, restrictions on, 307.11

Turkey marketing council, restrictions on, 184A.19

Utilities board general counsel, restrictions on, 474.10

Workers' compensation commissioner and deputy commissioners, restrictions on, 86.4, 86.5

**POLITICAL PARTIES AND ORGANIZATIONS**

Bylaws, 43.111

Campaign funds, *see* **CAMPAIGN FINANCE**

Cities under special charter, political party conventions, delegates, and committees in, 420.126–420.137

Committees

Cities under special charter, party committees in, 420.126–420.137

County central committees, 43.99–43.101

State central committees, 43.111

Constitutions, 43.111

Conventions

Cities under special charter, party conventions in, 420.126–420.137

County conventions, 43.90, 43.94–43.97

District conventions, 43.102–43.104

State conventions, 43.107–43.109

Definition of political party, 43.2

Nominations of candidates

Nonparty political organizations, 43.2, 43.121, ch 44

Petitions, nominations by, 43.2, 43.121, 44.17, ch 45

Primary elections, *see* **PRIMARY ELECTIONS**

Platforms, 43.111

Precinct caucuses, *see* **PRECINCT CAUCUSES**

Voter party affiliation changes prior to and at primary elections, 43.41, 43.42

**POLLING PLACES**

*See* **VOTING AND VOTERS**

**PORK PRODUCERS COUNCIL**

Political activity restrictions for council, 183A.14

**PRECINCT CAUCUSES**

*General provisions*, 43.4

Cities under special charter, precinct caucuses in, 420.127–420.129

Notices of date, time, and place of caucuses, 43.92

Places of holding caucuses, 43.93

Reporting of results, failure to perform, criminal offenses and penalties, 39A.4(1c)

Voting at caucuses, eligibility for, 43.91

**PRECINCTS**

*General provisions*, 49.3–49.11

Caucuses in precincts, *see* **PRECINCT CAUCUSES**

Voting in precincts, *see* **VOTING AND VOTERS**, *subhead Polling Places*

**PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS**

*General provisions*, ch 54

Ballots, 49.32

Contesting of elections for presidential electors, ch 60

Precinct caucuses, *see* **PRECINCT CAUCUSES**

Vacancies in nominations of presidential electors, filling of, 43.80

**PRIMARY ELECTIONS**

*General provisions*, 39.3(9), ch 43

Ballots, *see* **BALLOTS**

**PRIMARY ELECTIONS** — Continued

## Candidates

Affidavits, 43.18, 43.19

Deaths, 43.23

Nomination papers, 43.11–43.14, 43.20

Withdrawals, 43.23

Canvasses of votes, *see CANVASSES OF VOTES*

City primary elections, 376.1, 376.6, 376.7

Counting votes, 43.45

Party affiliation changes prior to and at primary elections, 43.41, 43.42

Recounts of votes, 43.56

Time of holding, 43.7

Voting at primary elections, *see VOTING AND VOTERS*

Write-in candidates, 43.66

**PROBATE COURT JUDGES***See COURTS AND COURT OFFICIALS***PROBATION OFFICERS**

Political activity rights and restrictions for probation officers, 80F.1

**PROPANE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH COUNCIL**

Political activity restrictions for council, 101C.7

**PROPERTY TAXES***See TAXES***PUBLIC EMPLOYEES**

Candidates for elective office, leaves of absence for, 55.4

Misconduct, official, ch 721

Political activity rights and restrictions for public employees, *see POLITICAL ACTIVITIES***PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

Political activity restrictions for executive officer and employees of system, 97B.3, 97B.4

**PUBLIC MEASURES***General provisions*, 39.2(4), 39.3(10), ch 49A

Ballots, 49.43–49.48, 49.50

Banking entities created by legislative Acts, submission to voters, Const Iowa VIII §5, 6

Bond issues, *see BONDS AND BOND ISSUES*

Canvasses of votes on public measures, 49A.8

Cities, 47.6(3), 362.11

Constitutional amendments, submission to voters, Const Iowa X §1–3; ch 49A

Contesting of elections on public measures, ch 57

Counties, 47.6(3), 331.309

Debt measures, *see DEBTS*Gambling, referendums on, *see GAMBLING GAMES*

Identification letter for local public measures, assignment of, 47.2(4)

Recounts of votes on public measures, 50.49

School districts, 277.2, 277.7

Tax measures, *see TAXES*

**PUBLIC OFFICERS**

See also *CITIES*, subhead *Officers of Cities*; *COUNTIES*, subhead *Officers of Counties*; *STATE OFFICERS*

Bribery, 722.1, 722.2

Candidates for elective office, see *CANDIDATES FOR ELECTIONS*

Leaves of absence for service in and candidacy for office, 55.1, 55.4, 55.5

Misconduct, official, ch 721

Oath, Const Iowa XI §5

Political activity rights and restrictions for public officers, see *POLITICAL ACTIVITIES*

Qualifications for holding office

*General provisions*, 39.27, ch 63

    Sex as disqualification, prohibited, 39.25

Terms of office, commencement of, 39.8

Vacancies in office

    Defined, 69.2

    Filling, Const Iowa XI §6; 69.8

**QUAD CITIES INTERSTATE METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY**

Creation of authority, referendum on, 28A.1, 28A.5, 28A.6

Dissolution of authority, 28A.25

Sales and services tax, 28A.17

**RACETRACKS**

Gambling game operation at racetracks, county referendums on, 99F.7

**REAL ESTATE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS**

Organization of districts, 358C.3, 358C.6–358C.9

Trustees of districts, elections of, 358C.10

**REAPPORTIONMENT**

See *REDISTRICTING*

**RECORDERS, COUNTY**

See *COUNTIES*

**RECOUNTS**

*General provisions*, 50.48

Administrative recounts, 50.50

Primary elections, 43.56

Public measures, 50.49

**RECREATIONAL FACILITY AND WATER QUALITY DISTRICTS**

See *COMBINED RECREATIONAL FACILITY AND WATER QUALITY DISTRICTS*

**RECREATIONAL LAKE DISTRICTS**

Bond issues by and indebtedness of districts, authorizations for, 357E.11

Tax levies for districts, 357E.8

Trustees of districts, elections of, 357E.8, 357E.9

**REDISTRICTING**

Cities, reprecincting of, 49.7, 49.8

Community college merged area director districts, 260C.13

Congressional districts, Const Iowa III §36, 37; ch 42

Counties, reprecincting of, 49.7, 49.8

County supervisor districts, 49.3(4), 331.206–331.210A

**REDISTRICTING** — Continued

General assembly districts, Const Iowa III §34–37, 39; ch 42

Judicial districts and judicial election districts, reorganization of, 602.6107, 602.6109

School district director districts, 275.23A

**REFERENDUMS**

Community clusters, tax revenue sharing, 28E.39

Constitutional amendments, Const Iowa X §1–3; ch 49A

Emergency communications systems (E911), surcharges for, 34A.6, 34A.6A, 34A.7(7)

Gambling game operation on excursion boats and at pari-mutuel racetracks, 99F.7

Historical preservation districts, establishment and termination of, 303.20–303.25, 303.33

Public measures, *see PUBLIC MEASURES*

Quad cities interstate metropolitan authority, creation of, 28A.1, 28A.5, 28A.6

Soil and water conservation districts, discontinuance of, 161A.10

**REGIONAL METROPOLITAN SERVICE AREAS**

Establishment of areas, 28E.40

**REGISTRATION OF VOTERS**

*See VOTING AND VOTERS*

**REPRESENTATIVES, STATE**

*See GENERAL ASSEMBLY*

**REPRESENTATIVES, UNITED STATES**

*See CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS*

**REVENUE DEPARTMENT**

Political activity restrictions for tax review board and director of department, 421.1, 421.3

Voter registration electronic form and link on department website, 421.17

**RUNOFF ELECTIONS**

Cities, 376.9

**RURAL IMPROVEMENT ZONES**

Trustees of zones, elections of, 357H.5, 357H.6

**SALES TAXES**

*See TAXES*

**SANITARY DISTRICTS**

Annexations of property by districts, 358.26–358.29

Incorporations of districts, question to voters, 358.1A–358.8

Joint financing of public works and facilities by districts, 28F.1

Trustees of districts, elections of, 358.9

**SCHOOL CORPORATIONS**

*See COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND MERGED AREAS; SCHOOL DISTRICTS*

**SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

*General provisions, 39.3(14), ch 277, ch 278*

Boards of directors, *see subhead Directors, Boards of, below*

Bonds, issues of and taxes for, *see BONDS AND BOND ISSUES*

Books used by school districts, *see subhead Textbooks Used by School Districts below*

Boundary changes for school districts

*See also subhead Reorganizations of School Districts below*

Descriptions, filing of, 274.4

Branches taught, approval by voters, 278.1(1c)

Buildings of school districts

*See also subhead Property of School Districts below*

Bond issues for buildings, *see BONDS AND BOND ISSUES, subhead School Districts*

Joint projects with cities, counties, fire districts, and school districts, bond issues for, 28E.41

Leases and lease-purchases of supplemental facilities, approval by voters, 278.1(2)

Polling places, use of schoolhouses for, 49.24, 297.9

Roads for access to schoolhouses, approval by voters, 278.1(1f)

Taxes for buildings and infrastructure, 279.39, 423F.3

Use of buildings, approval by voters, 278.1(1d), 297.11

Canvasses of votes at school elections, 277.20

Capital projects funds, transfer of, approval by voters, 278.1(1e)

Community education, voted tax levy used for, 276.12, 300.4

Consolidations of school districts, *see subhead Reorganizations of School Districts below*

Contesting of school elections, 277.22

Debts

Bonds, *see BONDS AND BOND ISSUES, subhead School Districts*

Service funds, transfer of, approval by voters, 278.1(1e)

Directors, boards of

*General provisions, 275.12, 275.25, 275.35–275.38, 275.41, 275.57, 278.1(1g, h)*

Candidates for elections, *see CANDIDATES FOR ELECTIONS*

Contesting of elections of directors, 277.22

Nominations of candidates for elections, 277.4, 277.5

Oaths, 277.28

Qualifications for holding office, 277.27

Redistricting of director districts, 275.23A

Terms of office, 39.24, 274.7

Vacancies in office, filling of, 277.29, 277.30, 279.6, 279.7

Dissolutions of school districts, proposition submitted to voters, 275.55

Educational improvement program, 257.29

Hospitals, merged area, *see HOSPITALS AND HOSPITAL SERVICES, subhead Area Hospitals and Hospital Trustees*

Hours for voting at school elections, 49.73(1a)

Indebtedness, *see subhead Debts above*

Infrastructure, *see subhead Buildings of School Districts above*

Instructional support program participation, 257.18, 257.27

Land of school districts, *see subhead Property of School Districts below*

Leases and lease-purchases

Buildings for supplemental facilities, approval by voters, 278.1(2)

Disposition of school district property, approval by voters, 278.1(1b)

Levies of taxes, *see TAXES, subhead School District Tax Elections*

**SCHOOL DISTRICTS** — Continued

## Library services

Tax levies for school libraries, discontinuance in reorganized districts, 298.7

Use of city libraries, termination of contracts, proposition to voters, 336.18

Mergers of school districts, *see subhead Reorganizations of School Districts below*

Name changes for school districts, approval by voters, 278.1(1i)

Nominations of candidates for school district offices, 277.4, 277.5

Officers of school districts, *see subhead Directors, Boards of, above*

Physical plant and equipment levy funds, transfer of, approval by voters, 278.1(1e)

Physical plant and equipment tax levies, 275.12(5), 275.20, 277.2, 298.2, 298.9

Polling places, *see VOTING AND VOTERS, subhead Polling Places*

## Property of school districts

*See also subhead Buildings of School Districts above*

Disposition of property, approval by voters, 278.1(1b), 297.25

Property tax elections, *see TAXES, subhead School District Tax Elections*

## Public educational and recreational activities

Tax levies for activities, ch 300

Funds for activities, transfer of, approval by voters, 278.1(1e)

Public measures, 277.2, 277.7

## Reorganizations of school districts

*See also subhead Boundary Changes for School Districts above*

*General provisions, 275.6, 275.11–275.13, 275.18, 275.20, 275.22–275.27*

Retirement systems for teachers, establishment of, 294.8

Roads for access to schoolhouses, approval by voters, 278.1(1f)

Schoolhouses, *see subhead Buildings of School Districts above*

Special elections, *see SPECIAL ELECTIONS*

Taxes for school districts, *see TAXES*

Teachers pension and annuity retirement systems, establishment of, 294.8

## Textbooks used by school districts

Change of textbooks, approval by voters, 278.1(1a)

Provision of free textbooks, 301.24, 301.25, 301.27

Vacancies in school district offices, determination and filling of, 277.29, 277.30, 279.6, 279.7

Voting procedure and requirement instruction by school districts, requirements, 256.11, 280.9A, 331.502

**SECONDARY ROAD SERVICES DISTRICTS**

Bond issues by and indebtedness of districts, authorizations for, 357I.12

Tax levies for districts, 357I.8

Trustees of districts, elections of, 357I.8, 357I.9

**SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE**

*See also STATE OFFICERS*

*General provisions, 39.8, 39.9*

**SECRETARY OF STATE**

*See also STATE OFFICERS*

*General provisions, Const Iowa IV §22; 39.8, 39.9*

Election administration duties, *see COMMISSIONER OF ELECTIONS, STATE*

**SENATORS, STATE**

*See GENERAL ASSEMBLY*

**SENATORS, UNITED STATES**

*See CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS*

**SERVICES TAXES**

See *TAXES, subhead Sales, Services, and Use Tax Elections*

**SHEEP AND WOOL PROMOTION BOARD**

Political activity restrictions for board, 182.18

**SHERIFFS AND DEPUTY SHERIFFS, COUNTY**

See *COUNTIES*

**SIGNS**

*General provisions, 68A.405, 68A.406*

**SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS AND COMMISSIONERS**

Discontinuance of districts, referendums on, 161A.10

Elections of commissioners, 39.21, 49.31, 161A.5, 161A.6

Organization, financing, and operation of districts, 161F.6

**SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION**

Political activity restrictions for board of association and organizations funded by association, 185.35

**SPECIAL ELECTIONS**

*General provisions, 39.3(15)*

Canvasses of votes, 50.46

Dates, 39.2

Notices, 39.6

Political subdivisions, 47.6

Polling places, *see VOTING AND VOTERS, subhead Polling Places*

Vacancies to be filled, 69.12, 69.14

**STATE EMPLOYEES**

See *PUBLIC EMPLOYEES*

**STATE OFFICERS**

*See also index heading for specific state officer; PUBLIC OFFICERS*

Candidates for elections, *see CANDIDATES FOR ELECTIONS*

Contesting of elections of state officers, ch 61

Nominations of candidates for elections, 43.6

Political activity restrictions for state officers, *see POLITICAL ACTIVITIES*

Terms of office, 39.9

Vacancies in office, filling of, 69.8, 69.13

**STREET LIGHTING DISTRICTS**

Bond issues by and indebtedness of districts authorizations for, 357C.10

Tax levies for districts, 357C.7, 357C.9

Trustees of districts, elections of, 357C.7, 357C.8

**SUPERVISORS, COUNTY**

See *COUNTIES, subhead Supervisors, Boards of, Elections and Election Duties*

**SUPREME COURT JUSTICES**

See *COURTS AND COURT OFFICIALS*

**SWIMMING POOLS**

Establishment and financing of joint undertakings for swimming pools, 28F.1

**TAXES**

- Agricultural extension districts, tax levy and revenue limits for, question to voters, 176A.10
- Campaign fund checkoff from income taxes, 68A.601–68A.609, 422.12J
- City tax elections
  - General provisions*, 384.12
  - Capital improvements funds, 384.7
  - Emergency medical services districts, 357G.11, 384.12(19)
  - Hotel and motel taxes, *see subhead Hotel and Motel Tax Elections below*
  - Law enforcement districts, 28E.22, 28E.25, 28E.28A, 28E.28B
  - Local option taxes, *see subhead Local Option Tax Elections below*
- Community clusters, sharing of tax revenue by units in, referendums, 28E.39
- Community college merged area tax elections
  - General provisions*, 260C.22, 260C.28
  - Hours of voting, 49.73(2)
- County tax elections
  - Emergency communications systems, (E911), surcharges for, referendums, 34A.6, 34A.6A, 34A.7(7)
  - Emergency medical services, 422D.1, 422D.3, 422D.5
  - Hospitals, erecting, levies for, 347.7
  - Hotel and motel taxes, *see subhead Hotel and Motel Tax Elections below*
  - Indebtedness, bonded, principal and interest payment, 331.447
  - Law enforcement districts, 28E.22, 28E.25, 28E.28A, 28E.28B
  - Local option taxes, *see subhead Local Option Tax Elections below*
  - Special levy elections, 331.425
- Emergency medical services, tax elections for
  - Benefited districts, tax levy elections for, 357F.8
  - City districts, tax levy elections for, 357G.8, 384.12(19)
  - Local option tax elections for services, 422D.1, 422D.3, 422D.5
- Hospitals, tax elections for
  - County tax levies for hospitals, alternative use of, 347.7
  - Merged area hospitals, special tax elections for, 145A.19
- Hotel and motel tax elections
  - General provisions*, 331.402(2f), 423A.1, 423A.2, 423A.4
  - Bond issues, 423A.7
- Lake districts, benefited recreational, tax levy elections for, 357E.8
- Law enforcement districts, tax elections for, 28E.22, 28E.25, 28E.28A, 28E.28B, 357D.8
- Libraries, tax elections for
  - City library support, tax levy elections for, 384.12(21)
  - School district libraries, tax levies for, election for discontinuance in reorganized districts, 298.7
- Local option tax elections
  - Emergency medical services, 422D.1, 422D.3, 422D.5
  - Hotel and motel taxes, *see subhead Hotel and Motel Tax Elections above*
  - Sales and services taxes, *see subhead Sales, Services, and Use Tax Elections below*
  - Vehicle taxes, 423B.1–423B.3
- Municipality levies, limitation of, 24.15
- Sales, services, and use tax elections
  - General provisions*, 423B.1, 423B.5, 423B.6
  - Hours of voting, 49.73(1b, e)
  - Quad cities interstate metropolitan authority, 28A.17
  - Revenue recipients, bond issues by, 423B.9
- School district tax elections
  - Bonded indebtedness, payment of principal and interest on, 298.18, 298.18A
  - Buildings, 279.39

**TAXES — Continued**

## School district tax elections — Continued

- Infrastructure funding from state sales taxes, revenue purpose statements for, 423F.3
- Insurance, indebtedness for, authorizations, 296.7
- Libraries, levies for, discontinuance in reorganized districts, 298.7
- Physical plant and equipment levies, 275.12(5), 275.20, 277.2, 298.2, 298.9
- Public educational and recreational activities, 276.12, ch 300
- Surtaxes, 298.2
- Secondary road services districts, tax levy elections for, 357I.8
- Services tax elections, *see subhead Sales, Services, and Use Tax Elections above*
- Street lighting districts, tax levy elections for, 357C.7, 357C.9
- Township halls, tax levies for, 360.1
- Use tax elections, *see subhead Sales, Services, and Use Tax Elections above*
- Vehicle local option tax elections, 423B.1–423B.3

**TAX REVIEW BOARD, STATE**

- Political activity restrictions for board, 421.1

**TELEPHONE SERVICE**

- Emergency communications systems (E911), surcharges for, referendums, 34A.6, 34A.6A, 34A.7(7)

**TOWNSHIPS**

- Boards of trustees, *see subhead Trustees below*
- Bond issues, 75.1
- Clerks
  - General provisions*, 39.21, 39.22
  - Ballots, 49.30, 49.31
  - Vacancies in office, filling of, 69.8
- Community commonwealths, 331.260–331.263
- Halls, erection of, proposition to voters, 360.1
- Hospitals, merged area, *see HOSPITALS AND HOSPITAL SERVICES, subhead Area Hospitals and Hospital Trustees*
- Library use contracts with cities, termination of, proposition to voters, 336.18
- New townships, first elections in, 359.10–359.13
- Officers of townships, *see subheads Clerks above; Trustees below*
- Trustees
  - General provisions*, 39.21, 39.22
  - Ballots, 49.30, 49.31
  - Vacancies in office, filling of, 69.8

**TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT**

- Political activity restrictions for director of department, 307.11

**TREASURER OF STATE**

*See also STATE OFFICERS*

- General provisions*, Const Iowa IV §22; 39.8, 39.9

**TREASURERS, COUNTY**

*See COUNTIES*

**TRUSTEES (GOVERNMENTAL BODIES)**

- Drainage and levee districts, 468.327, 468.500–468.523
- Emergency medical services districts, 357F.8, 357F.9, 357G.8, 357G.9
- Health care facilities of cities, 392.6
- Hospitals, *see HOSPITALS AND HOSPITAL SERVICES*

**TRUSTEES (GOVERNMENTAL BODIES) — Continued**

Land use districts, 303.49  
 Law enforcement districts, 357D.8, 357D.9  
 Libraries, *see LIBRARIES*  
 Mental health centers, 230A.4, 230A.5  
 Real estate improvement districts, 358C.10  
 Recreational lake districts, 357E.8, 357E.9  
 Rural improvement zones, 357H.5, 357H.6  
 Sanitary districts, 358.9  
 Secondary road services districts, 357I.8, 357I.9  
 Street lighting districts, 357C.7, 357C.8  
 Townships, *see TOWNSHIPS*  
 Water districts, 357.12, 357.13  
 Water quality districts, 357E.8, 357E.9

**TURKEY MARKETING COUNCIL**

Political activity restrictions for council, 184A.19

**USE TAXES**

*See TAXES, subhead Sales, Services, and Use Tax Elections*

**UTILITIES**

City utilities and utilities serving cities  
     Electric power facilities, joining by cities, 28F.1  
     Franchise elections, *see FRANCHISE ELECTIONS*  
     Operation, proposal to voters, 388.2  
     Water utilities, joint, establishment of, 389.2

**UTILITIES BOARD**

Political activity restrictions for general counsel of board, 474.10

**VACANCIES IN OFFICE**

Elections to fill vacancies, Const Iowa XI §6; ch 69

**VEHICLE TAXES**

Local option taxes, 423B.1–423B.3

**VICE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS**

*See PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS*

**VOTING AND VOTERS**

Absentee voting and absent voters, *see ABSENTEE VOTING AND ABSENT VOTERS*

Age requirements for voting, Const Iowa II §1; 48A.5  
 Arrest of electors, privilege from, Const Iowa II §2  
 Assistance to voters, 49.89–49.91  
 Ballots, *see BALLOTS*  
 Blind persons, assistance in voting, 49.90  
 Bribery of voters, criminal offenses and penalties for offenses, 39A.2(1d)  
 Challenges of voters, 49.79–49.81  
 Competency to vote  
     *See also subhead Eligibility to Vote and Eligible Electors below*  
     Determinations of competency to vote, 222.16, 222.31(3), 222.45,  
     602.8102(15), 633.556(1), 633.679  
 Criminal offenders, voting rights of, Const Iowa II §5; 48A.6, 48A.10, ch 914  
 Criminal offenses and penalties for offenses, ch 39A

**VOTING AND VOTERS** — Continued

## Disabled persons

Accessibility of polling places, 49.11(2), 49.21

Assistance in voting, 49.90

## Disqualification of persons from voting and disqualified persons

*See also subhead Incompetency to Vote below*

*General provisions*, Const Iowa II §5; 48A.6

Drainage and levee district trustee elections, 468.509–468.513

Duress to vote, criminal offenses and penalties for offenses, 39A.2(1c)

## Elderly persons

Accessibility of voting centers, 49.11(2)

Assistance in voting, 49.90

## Eligibility to vote and eligible electors

*See also subheads Competency to Vote above; Qualifications for Voting and Qualified Voters below*

Declaration of eligibility, 49.77

Definition of eligible elector, 39.3(6)

Employees, leave time for voting by, 39A.5(1a), 49.109

Equipment used for voting, *see subhead Optical Scan Voting Systems below*

Fraud and penalties for fraud, 39A.2(1b)

## Incompetency to vote

*See also subhead Disqualification of Persons from Voting and Disqualified Persons above*

Determinations of incompetency to vote, 222.16, 222.31(3), 222.45, 602.8102(15), 633.556(1), 633.679

Instruction in voting procedures by schools, 256.11, 280.9A

Marking of ballots, 49.92–49.103

Mental retardation, persons with, determinations of competency to vote, 222.16, 222.31(3), 222.45

Method of voting, determination of, 49.26

## Military forces

Absent voters and absentee voting, 46.18, 53.37–53.53

Duty performance on election days, Const Iowa II §3

Residency, Const Iowa II §4

Minors, emancipated, voting by, 232C.4

Misconduct and penalties for misconduct, ch 39A

## Optical scan voting systems

*General provisions*, ch 52

Examination, 49.127

Purchase, 331.427, 331.441(2b)

Use, 49.26

## Polling places

Accessibility, 49.11(2), 49.21

Boards of election officials, 49.12–49.20

Changes, notice of, 49.23

Closing, 49.73

Counting boards, ch 51

Equipment, 49.25

Hours, 49.73

Opening, 49.73

School buildings, 49.24

Precincts, *see subhead Polling Places above*

**VOTING AND VOTERS** — Continued

## Primary election voting and voters

Party affiliation change, 43.41, 43.42

Restricted to voting ticket of affiliated party, 43.38

## Qualifications for voting and qualified voters

*See also subhead Eligibility to Vote and Eligible Electors above**General provisions*, Const Iowa II §1; 48A.5, 48A.5A

## Registration of voters and registered voters

*General provisions*, ch 48A

Affiliation with political organizations, 44.18

Agencies for registration, 48A.19–48A.21

Cancellations, 48A.30

Challenges, 48A.14–48A.16

Changes, 48A.27

Charges, payment, 331.424

Commissioners of registration, county, 48A.3, 48A.35

Commission for registration, state, 39.3(13), 47.8

Confirmation program, 48A.28, 48A.29

County treasurers offices, participation in registration, 48A.18, 48A.21, 331.557A

Criminal offenses and penalties for offenses, ch 39A

Deadlines for registration, 48A.9

Definition of registered voter, 39.3(11)

Driver's license stations, participation in registration, 48A.18, 48A.21

Electronic registration form and link on revenue department website, 421.17

Expenses, payment, 331.424

Form, 48A.11, 48A.12, 421.17

Fraud, criminal offenses and penalties for offenses, 39A.2(1a)

Mail registrations, 48A.8

Misconduct and penalties for misconduct, ch 39A

Registrar of voters, state, 39.3(12), 47.7

Restorations of voting rights to criminal offenders by governor, ch 914

Students in high school and college, registration of, 48A.23, 280.9A

Residency requirements for voting, Const Iowa II §1; 48A.5, 48A.5A

Restoration of voting rights by governor, ch 914

Straight ticket voting, 49.94

Wards, competency to vote, determinations of, 633.556(1), 633.679

Write-in votes, *see WRITE-IN VOTES***WAGERING (GAMBLING GAMES)***See GAMBLING GAMES***WAGERING ON ELECTIONS**

Criminal offense, 725.10, 725.15

**WARDS**

Competency of wards to vote, determinations of, 633.556(1), 633.679

**WARDS IN CITIES***General provisions*, 49.3(4), 372.13(7)**WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS**

Establishment and financing of joint undertakings for systems, 28F.1

**WATER DISTRICTS**

Establishment of districts, proposition to voters, 357.1B, 357.12–357.16

Franchises granted by cities to rural water districts, 357A.23

Subdistricts of districts, establishment of, 357.29

Trustees of districts, elections of, 357.12, 357.13

**WATER QUALITY DISTRICTS**

Bond issues by and indebtedness of districts, authorizations for, 357E.11

Tax levies for districts, 357E.8

Trustees of districts, elections of, 357E.8, 357E.9

**WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS**

Establishment and financing of joint undertakings for systems, 28F.1

**WHEEL TAXES**

Local option vehicle taxes, 423B.1–423B.3

**WORKERS' COMPENSATION DIVISION**

Political activity restrictions for commissioner and deputy commissioners of division, 86.4, 86.5

**WRITE-IN VOTES**

*General provisions*, 49.99

City elections, 376.11

Primary elections, 43.53, 43.66

**ZOOS AND ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS**

Bond issues by cities, question to voters, 394.1–394.3

Use of zoos, contracts with cities and counties for, question to voters, 394.4

# ELECTION LAWS PAGE CHECKLIST

(through October 2009)

Page	Date	Page	Date
Title page	No date	19	October 2008
(blank page)		20	October 2008
iii	October 2009	20a	October 2008
(blank page)		20b	October 2008
v	October 2009	21	October 2006
vi	October 2009	22	October 2006
vii	October 2006	22a	October 2006
viii	October 2006	22b	BLANK
ix	October 2006	23	October 2008
x	October 2006	24	October 2008
xi	October 2006	24a	October 2004
xii	October 2006	24b	BLANK
xiii	October 2006	24c	October 2009
(blank page)		24d	October 2009
1	October 2009	24e	October 2008
2	October 2009	24f	October 2008
2a	October 2008	24g	October 2008
2b	BLANK	24h	BLANK
3	October 2009	25	October 2006
4	October 2009	26	BLANK
4a	October 2009	27	October 2002
4b	BLANK	28	October 2002
5	October 2003	29	October 2002
6	October 2003	30	October 2002
6a	October 2008	31	October 2002
6b	BLANK	32	October 2002
7	October 2004	33	October 2002
8	October 2004	34	October 2002
9	October 2008	35	October 2002
10	October 2008	36	October 2002
10a	October 2008	36a	October 2002
10b	BLANK	36b	BLANK
11	October 2008	37	October 2002
12	October 2008	38	October 2002
13	October 2008	39	October 2002
14	October 2008	40	October 2002
14a	October 2008	41	October 2002
14b	October 2008	42	October 2002
15	October 2008	43	October 2002
16	October 2008	44	October 2002
17	October 2002	45	October 2002
18	October 2002	46	October 2002

# ELECTION LAWS PAGE CHECKLIST

(through October 2009)

Page	Date	Page	Date
47	October 2002	91	October 2009
48	October 2002	92	October 2009
49	October 2002	93	October 2009
50	October 2002	94	BLANK
51	October 2002	95	October 2008
52	October 2002	96	October 2008
53	October 2002	97	October 2008
54	October 2002	98	October 2008
55	October 2002	99	October 2008
56	October 2002	100	October 2008
57	October 2002	101	October 2009
58	October 2002	102	October 2009
59	October 2002	103	October 2002
60	October 2002	104	October 2002
61	October 2002	105	October 2002
62	October 2002	106	October 2002
63	October 2002	107	October 2006
64	October 2002	108	October 2006
65	October 2002	109	October 2004
66	October 2002	110	October 2004
67	October 2002	111	October 2008
68	October 2002	112-114	October 2008
69	October 2008	115	October 2008
70	October 2008	116	October 2008
71	October 2009	117	October 2009
72	October 2009	118	October 2009
73	October 2007	119	October 2004
74	October 2007	120	October 2004
75	October 2008	121	October 2008
76-78	October 2008	122	October 2008
79	October 2009	123	October 2009
80	October 2009	124	October 2009
81	October 2009	125	October 2008
82	October 2009	126	October 2008
83	October 2008	127	October 2009
84	October 2007	128	October 2009
85	October 2008	128a	October 2008
86	October 2008	128b	BLANK
87	October 2008	129	October 2009
88	October 2008	130	October 2009
89	October 2009	131	October 2009
90	October 2009	132	October 2009

# ELECTION LAWS PAGE CHECKLIST

(through October 2009)

Page	Date	Page	Date
133	October 2008	169	October 2008
134	October 2008	170	October 2008
135	October 2009	171	October 2003
136	October 2009	172	October 2003
137	October 2009	173	October 2008
138	October 2009	174	October 2008
139	October 2009	175	October 2008
140	October 2009	176	October 2008
141	October 2009	177	October 2009
142	October 2009	178	October 2009
143	October 2008	178a	October 2009
144	October 2008	178b	October 2009
145	October 2009	179	October 2009
146	October 2009	180	October 2009
147	October 2008	181	October 2009
148	October 2008	182	October 2009
149	October 2008	183	October 2009
150	October 2008	184	October 2009
150a	October 2009	185	October 2009
150b	October 2009	186	October 2009
151	October 2008	187	October 2009
152	October 2008	188	October 2009
152a	October 2008	189	October 2009
152b	October 2008	190	BLANK
153	October 2008	191	October 2009
154	October 2008	192	October 2009
155	October 2008	193	October 2009
156	October 2008	194	October 2009
157	October 2009	195	October 2008
158	October 2009	196	October 2008
158a	October 2009	197	October 2009
158b	October 2009	198	October 2009
159	October 2009	199	October 2009
160	October 2009	200	October 2009
161	October 2009	200a	October 2009
162	October 2009	200b	October 2009
163	October 2009	201	October 2008
164	October 2009	202	October 2008
165	October 2009	203	October 2009
166	BLANK	204	October 2009
167	October 2009	205	October 2004
168	October 2009	206	October 2004

# ELECTION LAWS PAGE CHECKLIST

(through October 2009)

Page	Date	Page	Date
207	October 2009	255	October 2009
208	October 2009	256-262	BLANK
209	October 2008	263	October 2009
210	October 2008	264	October 2009
211	October 2009	265	October 2009
212-214	BLANK	266	October 2009
215	October 2006	266a	October 2009
216	October 2006	266b	October 2009
217	October 2006	266c	October 2009
218	BLANK	266d	BLANK
219	October 2009	267	October 2009
220	October 2009	268	October 2009
221	October 2008	268a	October 2009
222	October 2008	268b	October 2009
223	October 2009	269	October 2009
224	October 2009	270	October 2009
225	October 2009	271	October 2009
226	October 2009	272	October 2009
227	October 2009	273	October 2009
228	October 2009	274	October 2009
229	October 2009	275	October 2009
230	October 2009	276	October 2009
231	October 2002	277	October 2009
232	October 2002	278	October 2009
233	October 2009	279	October 2008
234	October 2009	280	October 2008
235	October 2009	281	October 2008
236	October 2009	282	October 2008
237	October 2008	283	October 2009
238	October 2008	284	BLANK
239	October 2009	285	October 2002
240	October 2009	286	October 2002
241	October 2009	287	October 2002
242	October 2009	288	BLANK
243	October 2009	289	October 2009
244	October 2009	290-316	October 2009
245	October 2009	317	October 2006
246-250	October 2009	318	October 2006
251	October 2009	319	October 2002
252	October 2009	320	BLANK
253	October 2008	321	October 2008
254	October 2008	322	October 2008

# ELECTION LAWS PAGE CHECKLIST

(through October 2009)

Page	Date	Page	Date
323	October 2002	348q	October 2009
324	October 2002	348r	October 2009
325	October 2004	348s	October 2009
326	October 2004	348t	October 2009
327	October 2002	348u	October 2009
328	October 2002	348v	October 2009
329	October 2002	348w	October 2009
330	BLANK	348x	October 2009
331	October 2009	348y	October 2009
332	October 2009	348z	October 2009
333	October 2008	349	October 2009
334	October 2008	350	October 2009
335	October 2002	351	October 2007
336	October 2002	352	October 2007
337	October 2008	353	October 2007
338	October 2008	354	October 2007
339	October 2006	355	October 2009
340	BLANK	356	October 2009
341	October 2008	357	October 2009
342	October 2008	358	October 2009
343	October 2002	359	October 2009
344	October 2002	360	October 2009
345	October 2008	361	October 2007
346	October 2008	362	October 2007
347	October 2002	363	October 2009
348	BLANK	364	October 2009
348a	October 2009	364a	October 2009
348b	October 2009	364b	October 2009
348c	October 2008	364c	October 2007
348d	October 2008	364d	BLANK
348e	October 2007	365	October 2008
348f	October 2007	366	October 2008
348g	October 2009	367	October 2009
348h	October 2009	368	October 2009
348i	October 2009	369	October 2009
348j	October 2009	370	October 2009
348k	October 2009	371	October 2008
348l	October 2009	372	October 2008
348m	October 2009	373	October 2009
348n	October 2009	374	October 2009
348o	October 2009	374a	October 2009
348p	October 2009	374b	October 2009

# ELECTION LAWS PAGE CHECKLIST

(through October 2009)

Page	Date	Page	Date
374c	October 2009	401	October 2009
374d	BLANK	402	October 2009
375	October 2007	403	October 2009
376	October 2007	404	October 2009
376a	October 2008	405	October 2009
376b	October 2008	406	October 2009
376c	October 2009	407	October 2009
376d	October 2009	408	BLANK
377	October 2008	409	October 2008
378	October 2008	410	BLANK
379	October 2009	411	October 2008
380	October 2009	412	October 2008
381	October 2009	413	October 2009
382	October 2009	414	October 2009
383	October 2009	415	October 2009
384	October 2009	416	October 2009
385	October 2009	416a	October 2009
386	October 2009	416b	BLANK
387	October 2009	417	October 2009
388	BLANK	418	October 2009
388a	October 2009	419	October 2009
388b	October 2009	420	October 2009
389	October 2009	421	October 2009
390	October 2009	422	October 2009
390a	October 2005	422a	October 2008
390b	BLANK	422b	October 2008
391	October 2007	423	October 2009
392	October 2007	424	October 2009
392a	October 2007	425	October 2008
392b	BLANK	426	October 2008
393	October 2009	427	October 2008
394	October 2009	428–430	October 2008
394a	October 2009	431	October 2009
394b	October 2009	432	October 2009
395	October 2009	433	October 2009
396	October 2009	434	October 2009
396a	October 2008	435	October 2009
396b	October 2008	436	October 2009
397	October 2009	437	October 2004
398	October 2009	438	October 2004
399	October 2009	439	January 2003
400	October 2009	440	January 2003

# ELECTION LAWS PAGE CHECKLIST

(through October 2009)

Page	Date	Page	Date
441	October 2009	475	October 2004
442	BLANK	476	October 2004
443	October 2009	477	October 2004
444	October 2009	478	October 2004
445	October 2009	479	October 2004
446	October 2009	480	October 2004
446a	October 2009	481	October 2004
446b	October 2009	482	October 2004
447	October 2009	482a	October 2005
448	October 2009	482b	October 2005
448a	October 2009	482c	October 2009
448b	BLANK	482d	October 2009
449	October 2006	482e	October 2009
450	October 2006	482f	October 2009
451	October 2006	483	October 2008
452	October 2006	484	October 2008
453	October 2002	485	October 2009
454	October 2002	486	October 2009
455	October 2003	486a	October 2009
456	BLANK	486b	BLANK
456a	October 2008	487	October 2009
456b	October 2008	488	October 2009
457	October 2009	489	October 2009
458	October 2009	490	October 2009
459	October 2005	491	October 2009
460	October 2005	492	October 2009
461	October 2004	493	October 2009
462	October 2004	494	October 2009
463	October 2008	494a	October 2009
464	October 2008	494b	BLANK
465	October 2008	495	October 2006
466	October 2008	496	October 2006
466a	October 2006	497	October 2009
466b	BLANK	498	October 2009
467	October 2004	499	October 2009
468	October 2004	500	October 2009
469	October 2004	501	October 2009
470	October 2004	502	October 2009
471	October 2004	503	October 2007
472	October 2004	504	October 2007
473	October 2004	505	October 2008
474	October 2004	506	October 2008

# ELECTION LAWS PAGE CHECKLIST

(through October 2009)

Page	Date	Page	Date
506a	October 2008	537	October 2009
506b	BLANK	538	October 2009
507	October 2009	539	October 2009
508	October 2009	540	October 2009
509	October 2009	540a	October 2009
510	October 2009	540b	October 2009
511	October 2009	541	October 2006
512	October 2009	542	October 2006
512a	October 2008	543	October 2006
512b	October 2008	544	October 2006
512c	October 2008	545	October 2009
512d	BLANK	546	October 2009
513	October 2008	547	October 2008
514	October 2008	548	BLANK
515	October 2005	549	October 2009
516	October 2005	550	October 2009
517	October 2002	551	October 2007
518	October 2002	552	October 2007
519	October 2002	552a	October 2007
520	October 2002	552b	BLANK
521	October 2008	553	October 2008
522	October 2008	554	October 2008
522a	October 2008	555	October 2009
522b	October 2008	556	October 2009
522c	October 2008	557	October 2009
522d	BLANK	558	October 2009
523	October 2002	559	October 2009
524	October 2002	560	October 2009
525	October 2009	560a	October 2006
526	October 2009	560b	BLANK
527	October 2009	561	October 2002
528	October 2009	562	October 2002
529	October 2002	563	October 2009
530	October 2002	564	October 2009
531	October 2002	565	October 2002
532	October 2002	566	October 2002
533	October 2009	567	October 2009
534	October 2009	568	October 2009
534a	October 2009	569	October 2009
534b	October 2009	570	October 2009
535	October 2009	571	October 2007
536	October 2009	572	October 2007

# ELECTION LAWS PAGE CHECKLIST

(through October 2009)

Page	Date	Page	Date
572a	October 2008	609	October 2008
572b	BLANK	610	October 2008
573	October 2002	611	October 2008
574	October 2002	612	October 2008
575	October 2009	613	October 2008
576	October 2009	614–614b	October 2008
577	October 2009	614c	October 2009
578	October 2009	614d	October 2009
579	October 2009	614e	October 2004
580	October 2009	614f	BLANK
581	October 2009	615	October 2004
582	October 2009	616	October 2004
583	October 2009	617	October 2003
584	October 2009	618	October 2003
585	October 2009	619	October 2009
586	October 2009	620	October 2009
586a	October 2007	621	October 2002
586b	October 2007	622	October 2002
587	October 2009	623	January 2003
588	October 2009	624	January 2003
589	October 2009	624a	October 2005
590	BLANK	624b	October 2005
591	October 2004	624c	October 2009
592	October 2004	624d	October 2009
593	October 2004	625	October 2007
594	October 2004	626	October 2007
595	January 2003	627	October 2007
596	January 2003	628	October 2007
597	January 2003	629	October 2009
598	January 2003	630	October 2009
598a	October 2008	631	October 2006
598b	October 2008	632	October 2006
599	October 2006	633	October 2009
600	October 2006	634	BLANK
601	October 2009	635	October 2008
602	October 2009	636	BLANK
603	October 2006	637	October 2006
604	October 2006	638	October 2006
605	October 2008	639	October 2009
606	October 2008	640	October 2009
607	October 2009	641	October 2006
608	October 2009	642	October 2006

# ELECTION LAWS PAGE CHECKLIST

(through October 2009)

Page	Date	Page	Date
643	October 2006	I-1	October 2009
644	October 2006	I-2	October 2009
644a	October 2007	I-3	October 2009
644b	BLANK	I-4	October 2009
645	October 2007	I-5	October 2009
646	October 2007	I-6	October 2009
647	October 2006	I-7	October 2009
648	October 2006	I-8	October 2009
649	October 2006	I-9	October 2009
650	October 2006	I-10	October 2009
M-1	October 2006	I-11	October 2009
M-2	October 2006	I-12	October 2009
M-3	October 2002	I-13	October 2009
M-4	October 2002	I-14	October 2009
M-5	October 2002	I-15	October 2009
M-6	October 2002	I-16	October 2009
M-7	October 2002	I-17	October 2009
M-8	October 2002	I-18	October 2009
M-9	October 2002	I-19	October 2009
M-10	October 2002	I-20	October 2009
M-11	October 2002	I-21	October 2009
M-12	October 2002	I-22	October 2009
M-13	October 2002	I-23	October 2009
M-14	October 2002	I-24	October 2009
M-15	October 2002	I-25	October 2009
M-16	October 2002	I-26	October 2009
M-17	October 2002	I-27	October 2009
M-18	October 2002	I-28	October 2009
M-19	October 2002	I-29	October 2009
M-20	October 2002	I-30	October 2009
M-21	October 2002	I-31	October 2009
M-22	October 2002	I-32	October 2009
M-23	October 2002	I-33	October 2009
M-24	October 2002	I-34	October 2009
M-25	October 2002	I-35	October 2009
M-26	October 2002	I-36	October 2009