

January 30, 1963.
Elections, Political and Judicial Districts.

House File 114
By RILEY and STANLEY.

Passed House, Date 3-22-63

Passed Senate, Date 4-11-63

Vote: Ayes 64 Nays 28

Vote: Ayes 40 Nays 0

Approved.....

*Passed on file 3/25
Gov. affairs 3/26
Pass 4/2*

A BILL FOR

An Act relating to the marking of ballots.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

1 Section 1. Section forty-nine point forty-four (49.44), Code
2 1962, is hereby amended by inserting in line ten (10) after the
3 word "cross" the words "or check".

1 Sec. 2. Section forty-nine point forty-six (49.46), Code 1962,
2 is hereby amended by striking all after "X" in line three (3) and
3 substituting in lieu thereof the following:

4 "or a check mark, thus, "√", placed in the proper square."

1 Sec. 3. Section forty-nine point forty-seven, (49.47), Code
2 1962, is hereby amended by inserting in line six (6) after the
3 word "mark" the words "or check (√)".

1 Sec. 4. Section forty-nine point ninety-two (49.92), Code
2 1962, is hereby amended by inserting in line two (2) after the
3 word "cross" the words "or check".

1 Sec. 5. Section forty-nine point ninety-four (49.94), Code
2 1962, is hereby amended as follows:

3 1. By inserting in line one (1) of subsection one (1) after
4 the word "cross" the words "or check".

5 2. By inserting in line two (2) of subsection one (1) after
6 the word "cross" the words "or check".

7 3. By inserting in line one (1) of subsection two (2) after
8 the word "cross" the words "or check".

9 4. By inserting in line three (3) of subsection two (2) after
10 the word "cross" the words "or check".

11 5. By inserting in line one (1) of subsection three (3) after
12 the word "cross" the words "or check".

13 6. By inserting in line two (2) of subsection three (3) after
14 the word "cross" the words "or check".

1 Sec. 6. Section forty-nine point ninety-five (49.95), Code
2 1962, is hereby amended as follows:

3 1. By inserting in line six (6) after the word "cross" the
4 words "or check".

5 2. By inserting in line eight (8) after the word "cross" the
6 words "or check".

1 Sec. 7. Section forty-nine point ninety-six (49.96), Code
2 1962, is hereby amended as follows:

3 1. By inserting in line six (6) after the word "cross" the
4 words "or check".

5 2. By inserting in line eleven (11) after the word "cross"
6 the words "or check".

7 3. By inserting in line thirteen (13) after the word "cross"
8 the words "or check".

1 Sec. 8. Section forty-nine point ninety-seven (49.97), Code
2 1962, is hereby amended as follows:

3 1. By inserting in line one (1) of subsection one (1) after
4 the word "cross" the words "or check".

5 2. By inserting in line four (4) of subsection one (1) after
6 the word "cross" the words "or check".

7 3. By inserting in line one (1) of subsection two (2) after
8 the word "cross" the words "or check".

9 4. By inserting in line three (3) of subsection two (2) after

10 the word "cross" the words "or check".

1 Sec. 9. Section forty-nine point ninety-eight (49.98), Code
2 1962, is hereby amended as follows:

3 1. By inserting in line nine (9) after the word "cross" the
4 words "or check".

5 2. By inserting in line ten (10) after the word "cross" the
6 words "or check".

7 3. By inserting in line eleven (11) after the word "cross"
8 the words "or check".

9 4. By inserting in line twelve (12) after the word "cross"
10 the words "or check".

1 Sec. 10. Section forty-nine point ninety-nine (49.99), Code
2 1962, is hereby amended as follows:

3 1. By inserting in line four (4) after the word "cross" the
4 words "or check".

5 2. By inserting in line six (6) after the word "cross" the
6 words "or check".

7 3. By inserting in line seven (7) after the word "cross" the
8 words "or check".

EXPLANATION OF HOUSE FILE 114

This bill will prevent many ballots from being wasted. Many voters forget to use a cross, and use a check mark, which clearly indicates the voter's intent. Government forms and school examination papers often require the use of check marks; so it is easy for voters to become confused on which mark they should use.

Under this bill, a check mark will have the same effect as a cross. The mark will still have to be placed in the proper circle or square on the ballot. Disputed ballots will be handled in the same way as now provided by law.