

January 24, 1965.

Passed on File.

*joint subdivisions 2/25  
to pass 3/16*

**Senate File 341**

By McNALLY, REPPERT, FROMMELT,  
COLEMAN, ELVERS, TABOR, HILL,  
BUREN, DENMAN, ELY, O'MALLEY,  
and KLEFSTAD.

Passed Senate, Date 7/8

Passed House, Date 7/15

Vote: Ayes 32 Nays 21

Vote: Ayes 81 Nays 17

Approved April 29, 1965

*motion to reconsider voted 4/8*

*general subdivisions 7/13  
substituted for HF 415-7/14*

**A BILL FOR**

An Act to change voting registration procedures and facilitate the procurement of absentee ballots.

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

1 Section 1. Chapter forty-eight (48), Code 1962, is hereby  
 2 amended by adding thereto the following new sections:  
 3 1. "The commissioner of registration shall establish a perma-  
 4 nent registration place in the office of the city clerk or else-  
 5 where in the city hall. The permanent registration place shall be  
 6 open at all times as are other city offices and at such other times  
 7 as the branch registration places are open as provided in this sec-  
 8 tion. The commissioner of registration shall establish at least  
 9 two (2) branch registration places in his jurisdiction, taking into  
 10 consideration the convenience of the voters. The commissioner shall  
 11 provide for additional branch registration places for each ten  
 12 thousand (10,000) inhabitants in the jurisdiction in excess of  
 13 thirty thousand (30,000) and for such additional branch registra-  
 14 tion places as the commissioner deems necessary. Branch registra-  
 15 tion places shall be opened the first (1st) Monday in October preced-  
 16 ing any general election and shall remain open Monday through Friday  
 17 from noon until 9:00 p.m. and Saturday from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00  
 18 p.m. for one (1) week. The commissioner of registration shall  
 19 appoint two (2) persons to act as deputy registrars in each branch

20 registration place. Such appointments shall be made from lists  
21 supplied for that purpose by the official county chairmen of the  
22 two (2) political parties polling the highest vote in the juris-  
23 diction at the last preceding general election. Such lists shall  
24 be provided not later than September fifteen (15) preceding the  
25 appointments. The commissioner shall appoint one (1) deputy from  
26 each list for each branch. Where the county chairmen fail to pro-  
27 vide lists by the date specified in this section, the commissioner  
28 shall make such appointments to persons known to be registered as  
29 members of the appropriate political party."

30 2. "The commissioner of registration shall appoint at least six  
31 (6) persons for each ten thousand (10,000) inhabitants, or major  
32 fraction thereof, within his jurisdiction as mobile deputy regis-  
33 trars. An equal number of such appointees shall be appointed from  
34 lists supplied for that purpose from the county chairmen of the two  
35 (2) political parties polling the highest vote in the jurisdiction  
36 in the last preceding general election. Mobile deputy registrars  
37 are authorized to secure registration of eligible voters anywhere  
38 in the jurisdiction and shall make such reports of new registra-  
39 tions and changes as the commissioner of registration requests.  
40 Mobile deputy registrars shall be appointed before the first (1st)  
41 of September preceding any general election and the appointments  
42 shall expire when registration closes for that election. Mobile  
43 deputy registrars shall serve without pay unless otherwise specif-  
44 ically provided by city ordinance."

45 3. "The commissioner of registration shall designate each fire-  
46 house in his jurisdiction as a registration place from August first  
47 (1st) preceding any general election until registration closes for

48 that election. At least two (2) firemen on each shift shall be  
49 deputized as registrars. Deputized firemen shall make such reports  
50 of new registrations and changes as the commissioner of registra-  
51 tion requests. Firemen deputized as registrars shall perform such  
52 duties without additional pay unless otherwise specifically pro-  
53 vided by city ordinance.”

1 Sec. 2. Section forty-eight point one (48.1), Code 1962, is  
2 hereby amended by striking from lines four (4) and five (5) the  
3 words “one hundred twenty-five” and inserting in lieu thereof the  
4 words “ten (10)”.

1 Sec. 3. Section forty-eight point five (48.5), Code 1962, is  
2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following paragraph:

3 “The commissioner of registration shall also prepare lists of  
4 newly registered voters, indicating the name, address, precinct  
5 number, and party affiliation of such voters. The lists shall be  
6 prepared weekly from July first (1st) until September fifteen (15)  
7 and daily thereafter during the calendar months preceding any  
8 general election until registrations are closed. The lists shall  
9 be available to public inspection at all reasonable times and  
10 duplicate lists shall be prepared upon request for the county  
11 chairman of any political party polling in excess of two (2) per-  
12 cent of the popular vote in the jurisdiction in the last preceding  
13 general election.”

1 Sec. 4. Section forty-eight point six (48.6), Code 1962, is  
2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following new subsection:  
3 “Party affiliation. (No Party if preferred.)”

1 Sec. 5. Section forty-eight point seven (48.7), Code 1962, is  
2 hereby repealed and the following enacted in lieu thereof:

3     "Removal notices shall be provided for the use of any registered  
4 voter moving to a new location. Removal notices shall provide  
5 space for the previous address of the voter, the address and exact  
6 location to which he is moving, and his signature. Any written  
7 notification from the voter containing the required information and  
8 signature shall be sufficient to validate his registration. If the  
9 commissioner of registration receives written notification of re-  
10 moval from any registered voter and the notification does not con-  
11 tain the required information, the commissioner shall immediately  
12 mail to the voter at his last known address notice that his regis-  
13 tration is defective. Upon receipt of any valid removal notice,  
14 but not later than ten (10) days before any election, the commis-  
15 sioner of registration shall make entry of any change on the  
16 original and duplicate registration lists and the voter shall be  
17 qualified to vote in the new election precinct. Any voter who  
18 changes his residence within ten (10) days preceding an election  
19 shall be entitled to vote in the precinct where he is registered."

1     Sec. 6. Section forty-eight point fourteen (48.14), Code 1962,  
2 is hereby repealed and the following enacted in lieu thereof:

3     "At the close of each calendar year, clerks of registration  
4 shall check the original registration list for the purpose of elim-  
5 inating excess names and shall examine the election registers.  
6 Whenever it appears that a registered voter has not voted at least  
7 one (1) time in four (4) calendar years in which elections are  
8 held, his card shall be taken from the original and duplicate  
9 registration lists and placed in a transfer file. The commissioner  
10 of registration shall then mail to the voter, at his last known  
11 address, a letter enclosing a return post card with a registration

12 form printed on the reverse side. The letter shall state that the  
13 addressee's vote has been challenged and the challenge can be  
14 removed by returning the completed registration post card. Return  
15 of the letter by the post office or failure of the voter to return  
16 the post card will invalidate the registration. When registration  
17 post cards and removal notices are received, registration clerks  
18 shall compare all signatures with those on the original registra-  
19 tion. If the signatures are not similar, a post card notice  
20 stating the failure of valid registration and specifying the cause  
21 will be sent the voter at his last known address. The voter shall  
22 remove the defect by completing a new registration.

23 "The commissioner of registration shall, on February first (1st)  
24 of each calendar year, prepare a list of all voters dropped from  
25 the registration list for failure of registration, removal, or  
26 death during the time following the last previous such listing.  
27 Such list shall provide names, addresses and precinct numbers, and  
28 the party affiliation of each voter dropped. Such lists shall be  
29 available for public inspection at all reasonable times and dupli-  
30 cate lists shall be provided on request for the county chairmen of  
31 any political party polling in excess of the two (2) percent of the  
32 popular vote in the last preceding general election. The commis-  
33 sioner of registration shall make, on February first (1st) and  
34 August first (1st) of each year, a report to the secretary of state  
35 showing the number of registered voters by party affiliation for  
36 his jurisdiction."

1 Sec. 7. Section fifty-three point two (53.2), Code 1962, is  
2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following sentence:

3 "Such application may be made in person or in writing as pro-

4 vided in section fifty-three point ten (53.10) of the Code.”  
 1 Sec. 8 Section fifty-three point ten (53.10), Code 1962, is  
 2 hereby repealed and the following enacted in lieu thereof:  
 3 “If the voter requests said application by card or letter ad-  
 4 dressed to his proper registration office, the responsible officer  
 5 shall send him both application and ballot at the same time.”

## SENATE FILE 341

1 Amend Senate File 341 by striking all of subsection two (2)  
 2 of section one (1).

Filed and lost  
 April 14, 1965.

SCHERLE of Fremont-Mills.

## SENATE FILE 341

1 Amend the amendment to Senate File 341, filed on April 6,  
 2 1965, by McNally, O'Malley, Frommelt and Reppert by striking  
 3 section 1 and inserting in lieu thereof the following:  
 4 “Section 1. Section forty-eight point four (48.4), Code  
 5 1962, is hereby amended as follows:  
 6 “1. Strike in line eight (8) the word ‘precinct’.  
 7 “2. Strike all of said section after the period (.) in  
 8 line twenty-two (22) and insert in lieu thereof the following:  
 9 ‘Registration places shall be established throughout the city  
 10 in such number and locations as the commissioner of registration  
 11 or the city council shall determine. The central registration  
 12 office shall be open at all times when a majority of other city  
 13 offices are open. During the month of October preceding any  
 14 general election, the central registration office shall also  
 15 be open from 5:00 o'clock p.m. until 9:00 o'clock p.m. on at  
 16 least five (5) days and from 9:00 o'clock a.m. until 5:00  
 17 o'clock p.m. on at least one Saturday before registration closes  
 18 for that election. Each other registration place shall be  
 19 open at least from noon until 9:00 o'clock p.m. on at least  
 20 two (2) days during the month of September or October preceding  
 21 any general election and before registration closes for that  
 22 election. Subject to the provisions of this section and any  
 23 applicable city ordinance, the commissioner of registration shall  
 24 determine the dates when the central registration office shall  
 25 be open during the additional hours specified in this section  
 26 and the dates and hours when other registration places shall be  
 27 open in accordance with this section. The commissioner of  
 28 registration shall cause notice of such dates and hours to be  
 29 published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation  
 30 in the city.’”

Filed and lost (20-32)  
 April 8, 1965.

By STANLEY.

SENATE FILE 341

1 Amend Senate File 341 by striking all after the enacting  
2 clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

3 Section 1. Chapter forty-eight (48), Code 1962, is hereby  
4 amended by adding thereto the following new sections:

5 1. "The commissioner of registration shall establish a  
6 permanent registration place in the office of the city  
7 clerk or elsewhere in the city hall. The permanent regis-  
8 tration place shall be open at all times as are other city  
9 offices and at such other times as the branch registration  
10 places are open as provided in this section. If petitioned  
11 by one or by both of the official county chairmen of the  
12 two (2) political parties polling the highest vote in the  
13 jurisdiction at the last preceding general election, the  
14 commissioner of registration shall establish at least two  
15 (2) branch registration places in his jurisdiction, taking  
16 into consideration the convenience of the voters. If peti-  
17 tioned by one or by both of the official county chairmen  
18 of the two (2) political parties polling the highest vote  
19 in the jurisdiction at the last preceding general election,  
20 the commissioner shall provide for additional branch regis-  
21 tration places for each ten thousand (10,000) inhabitants  
22 in the jurisdiction in excess of thirty thousand (30,000)  
23 and for such additional branch registration places as the  
24 commissioner deems necessary. All branch registration  
25 places shall be opened the first (1st) Monday in October  
26 preceding any general election and shall remain open Monday  
27 through Friday from noon until 8:00 p.m. and Saturday from  
28 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. for one (1) week. The commis-  
29 sioner of registration shall appoint two (2) persons to  
30 act as deputy registrars in each branch registration place.  
31 Such appointments shall be made from lists supplied for  
32 that purpose by the official county chairmen of the two  
33 (2) political parties polling the highest vote in the  
34 jurisdiction at the last preceding general election. Such  
35 lists shall be provided not later than August fifteen (15)  
36 preceding the appointments. The commissioner shall appoint  
37 one (1) deputy from each list for each branch. Where the  
38 county chairmen fail to provide lists by the date speci-  
39 fied in this section, the commissioner shall make such  
40 appointments to persons known to be registered as members  
41 of the appropriate political party."

42 2. "The commissioner of registration shall appoint at  
43 least six (6) persons for each ten thousand (10,000) in  
44 habitants, or major fraction thereof within his jurisdiction  
45 as mobile deputy registrars. An equal number of these  
46 appointees shall be appointed from lists supplied for that  
47 purpose from the county chairmen of the two (2) political  
48 parties polling the highest vote in the jurisdiction in  
49 the last preceding general election. Mobile deputy regis-  
50 trars are authorized to secure registration of eligible  
51 voters anywhere in the jurisdiction and shall make such  
52 reports of new registrations and changes as the commis-  
53 sioner of registration requests. Mobile deputy regis-  
54 trars shall be appointed before the first (1st) of August  
55 preceding any general election and the appointments shall  
56 expire when registration closes for that election. Mobile  
57 deputy registrars shall serve without pay from the munic-  
58 ipality."

59 Sec. 2. Section forty-eight point one (48.1), Code 1962,  
60 is hereby amended by striking from lines four (4) and five (5)  
61 the words "one hundred twenty-five" and inserting in lieu thereof  
62 the words "ten (10)".

63 Sec. 3. Section forty-eight point five (48.5), Code 1962,  
64 is hereby amended by adding thereto the following paragraph:

65 "The commissioner of registration shall also prepare lists  
66 of newly registered voters, indicating the name, address, pre-  
67 cinct number and party affiliation of such voters. The lists  
68 shall be prepared weekly from July first (1st) until September  
69 fifteen (15) and daily thereafter except Saturdays and Sundays  
70 during the calendar months preceding any general election until

71 registrations are closed. The lists shall be available to public  
72 inspection at all reasonable times and duplicate lists shall be  
73 prepared upon request for the county chairman of any political  
74 party polling in excess of two (2) percent of the popular vote  
75 in the jurisdiction in the last preceding general election.”  
76 Sec. 4. Section forty-eight point six (48.6), Code 1962,  
77 is hereby amended by adding thereto the following new subsection:

78 “Party affiliation. (No party if preferred.)”  
79 Sec. 5. Section forty-eight point seven (48.7), Code 1962,  
80 is hereby repealed and the following enacted in lieu thereof:  
81 “Removal notices shall be provided for the use of any  
82 registered voter moving to a new location. Removal notices  
83 shall provide space for the previous address of the voter, the  
84 address the exact location to which he is moving, and his sig-  
85 nature. Any written notification from the voter containing  
86 the required information and signature shall be sufficient to  
87 validate his registration. If the commissioner of registration  
88 receives written notification of removal from any registered  
89 voter and the notification does not contain the required infor-  
90 mation, the commissioner shall immediately mail to the voter  
91 at his last known address notice that his registration is defec-  
92 tive. Upon receipt of any valid removal notice, but not later  
93 than ten (10) days before any election, the commissioner of  
94 registration shall make entry of any change on the original  
95 and duplicate registration lists and the voter shall be quali-  
96 fied to vote in the new election precinct. Any voter who changes  
97 his residence within ten (10) days preceding an election shall  
98 be entitled to vote in the precinct where he is registered.”

99 Sec. 6. Section forty-eight point fourteen (48.14), Code  
100 1962, is hereby amended by adding the following:

101 “The commissioner of registration shall make, on August  
102 first (1st) of each year, a report to the secretary of state  
103 showing the number of registered voters by party affiliation  
104 for his jurisdiction.”

105 Sec. 7. Section fifty-three point two (53.2), Code 1962,  
106 is hereby amended by adding thereto the following sentence:

107 “Such application may be made in person or in writing as  
108 provided in section fifty-three point ten (53.10) of the Code.”

109 Sec. 8. Section fifty-three point ten (53.10), Code 1962,  
110 is hereby repealed and the following enacted in lieu thereof:

111 “If the voter requests said application by card or letter  
112 addressed to the auditor, the auditor shall send him both appli-  
113 cation and ballot at the same time.”

114 Sec. 9. Section forty-eight point six (48.6), Code 1962,  
115 is amended by adding after the period in line thirty-five (35)  
116 thereof the following: “Except that the signature shall be  
117 required only on the original registration list where the du-  
118 plicate registration list is prepared by electrical, mechanical  
119 or similar data process.”

120 Sec. 10. Section forty-eight point eight (48.8), Code  
121 1962, is amended by adding after the period in line nineteen  
122 (19) thereof the following: “Duplicate registration lists may  
123 be prepared by electrical, mechanical or similar data process.”

124 Sec. 11. Section forty-eight point twenty-one (48.21),  
125 Code 1962, is amended by adding after the period in line twenty-

126 four (24) thereof the following: “However, in cities using  
127 duplicate registration lists prepared by electrical, mechanical  
128 or similar data process the certificate of registration shall  
129 be approved by a judge or clerk of the election if the person  
130 signing the certificate of registration and the person on the  
131 registry list appear to be the same.”

Filed

April 6, 1965.

*adopted as amended 7/18 (34-18)*  
By McNALLY, O'MALLEY, FROMMELT and REPERT.

SENATE FILE 341

- 1 Amend the amendment to Senate File 341 filed April 6,
- 2 1965 by McNally, O'Malley, et al. by adding after the word
- 3 “address” in line 84 the word “of”.

Filed and adopted  
April 8, 1965.

By McNALLY.