

FEB 11 1971

STATE GOVERNMENT, *Pass 2/25*

HOUSE FILE 230

By REX

Passed House, Date 3-8-71 Passed Senate, Date 3-10-71

Vote: Ayes 68 Nays 22 Vote: Ayes 42 Nays 1

Approved April 15, 1971

Passed House as amended by Senate 3-29-71 aye 79, nays 7 **A BILL FOR** *Motion to reconsider filed 3/11, provided 3/24 Passed Senate 3-24-71 aye 46, nays 1*

1 An Act relating to election precincts.
2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. Section forty-nine point four (49.4), Code 1971,
2 is amended as follows:

3 49.4 CHANGE IN PRECINCTS BY SUPERVISORS--SIZE LIMITATION.

4 The board of supervisors may divide a township, or part there-
5 of, into two or more precincts, or change or abolish such di-
6 vision. The board of supervisors may also combine two or more
7 townships into one election precinct, subject to the provisions
8 of this section. An order establishing precincts shall define
9 their boundaries.

10 No election precinct shall have a total population in ex-
11 cess of one-tenth of one percent of the total population of
12 the state, as shown by the most recent federal decennial cen-
13 sus, except that a civil township or two or more townships may
14 constitute a single election precinct if its total population is
15 not in excess of twelve-hundredths of one percent of the total
16 population of the state and the board of supervisors deems the
17 division of such township into two precincts impractical. Where
18 a civil township, or the portion of a civil township outside
19 the corporate limits of any or all cities and towns located
20 wholly or partially within the boundaries of such township, is
21 divided into two or more election precincts, the populations
22 of each such precinct shall be as nearly equal as possible with-
23 in the limitations of availability of suitable polling places
24 and of reliable data on the populations of various parts of
25 such township. The board of supervisors shall make any changes
26 necessary to comply with this section not later than March 15
27 of each year immediately following a year in which the federal
28 decennial census is taken, unless the general assembly by joint
29 resolution establishes a later date for such compliance due to
30 unavailability of necessary census data. Any or all of the
31 publications required by section 49.11 may be made after March
32 15 if necessary.

33 Sec. 2. Section forty-nine point seven (49.7), Code 1971,
34 is amended as follows:

35 49.7 PORTIONS OF TOWNSHIPS COMBINED. No precinct shall

1 contain different townships or parts thereof, except where the
2 board of supervisors has combined two or more townships into
3 one election precinct or where, by reason of the existence of
4 a village or incorporated town on or near a township line, the
5 board of supervisors may create a voting precinct in compact
6 form, from said town or village, and may include therein ter-
7 ritory adjoining and adjacent to said village or town, which
8 is situated in two or more townships.

9 Sec. 3. Section forty-nine point ten (49.10), Code 1971,
10 is amended by adding the following new subsection:

11 "If two or more townships have been combined into one elec-
12 tion precinct by the board of supervisors, the board shall pro-
13 vide a polling place which is convenient to all of the electors
14 in the precinct."

15 EXPLANATION

16 Presently, many townships have small populations and along
17 the Missouri and Mississippi rivers, the townships are irreg-
18 ular in shape and many times, are smaller than most townships
19 in size.

20 This bill provides that a county board of supervisors may
21 combine two or more townships into one election precinct. The
22 bill can also reduce election costs. Present law provides that
23 a township may constitute a single election precinct if its to-
24 tal population does not exceed twelve-hundredths of one percent
25 of the total population of the state and this restriction also
26 applies to two or more townships, if combined into a single
27 election precinct.

SENATE AMENDMENT TO HOUSE FILE 230

- 1 Amend House File 230 as follows:
- 2 1. Page 2, by striking lines 1 through 32, inclusive, and
- 3 renumbering the remaining sections.
- 4 2. Page 3, line 2, by inserting after the word "more" the
- 5 word "contiguous".
- 6 3. Page 3, line 11, by inserting after the word "more" the
- 7 word "contiguous".

House concurred 3/29

Received from the Senate
March 25, 1971

- 1 Amend House File 230 as follows:
- 2 1. Page 2, by striking lines 1 through 32, inclusive, and
- 3 inserting in lieu thereof the following:
- 4 Section 1. Section forty-nine point four, unnumbered
- 5 paragraph one (1), as amended by House File 119, Code 1971,
- 6 is amended as follows:
- 7 49.4 CHANGE IN PRECINCTS BY SUPERVISORS--SIZE LIMITATION.
- 8 The board of supervisors may divide a township, or part thereof,
- 9 into two or more precincts, or change or abolish such division.
- 10 The board of supervisors may also combine two or more contigu-
- 11 ous townships into one election precinct, subject to the pro-
- 12 visions of this section. An order establishing precincts shall
- 13 define their boundaries.
- 14 2. Page 3, line 2, by inserting after the word "more" the
- 15 word "contiguous".
- 16 3. Page 3, line 11, by inserting after the word "more" the
- 17 word "contiguous".

Filed - *adopted 3/10, reconsidered and*
March 9, 1971 *withdrawn 3/24*

By POTGETER and RABEDEAUX

- 1 Amend House File 230 as follows:
- 2 1. Page 2, by striking lines 1 through 32, inclusive, and
- 3 renumbering the remaining sections.
- 4 2. Page 3, line 2, by inserting after the word "more" the
- 5 word "contiguous".
- 6 3. Page 3, line 11, by inserting after the word "more" the
- 7 word "contiguous".

Filed - *adopted*
March 11, 1971

By POTGETER and RABEDEAUX