

JAN 12 1996

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

HOUSE FILE **2059**
BY RANTS and KLEMME

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the submission of a change in the form of
2 county government to the county electorate.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 2059

1 Section 1. Section 331.232, subsection 1, Code 1995, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 1. A charter to change a form of county government may be
4 submitted to the electors of a county ~~only~~ by a commission
5 established by resolution of the board upon petition of the
6 number of eligible electors of the county equal to at least
7 twenty-five percent of the votes cast in the county for the
8 office of president of the United States or governor at the
9 preceding general election or the signatures of at least ten
10 thousand eligible electors of the county, whichever number is
11 fewer.

12 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 331.232A ALTERNATIVE FORMS OF
13 COUNTY GOVERNMENT SUBMITTED BY PETITION.

14 1. In lieu of being submitted by a commission as provided
15 in section 331.232, a charter or charter amendment to change a
16 form of county government to one of the alternative forms
17 specified in subsection 2 shall be submitted to the county
18 electorate by the board upon receipt of a petition signed by
19 at least twenty-five percent of the votes cast in the county
20 for the office of the president of the United States or
21 governor at the preceding general election or the signatures
22 of at least ten thousand eligible electors of the county,
23 whichever is fewer. The petition shall contain a form of
24 government which differs from the existing form of county
25 government in that county.

26 2. The alternative forms of county government which may be
27 submitted to the county electorate by petition to the board
28 are as follows:

29 a. Board of supervisor form as provided in division II,
30 part 1.

31 b. Board-elected executive form as provided in section
32 331.239.

33 c. Board-manager form as provided in section 331.241.

34 3. The ballot requirements, referendum provisions, and
35 limitations to the alternative forms of county government

1 specified in sections 331.236, 331.237, and 331.238 shall
2 apply to the submission of an alternative form of county
3 government to the county electorate by petition pursuant to
4 this section.

5 4. An alternative form of county government shall be
6 submitted to the county electorate by petition to the board in
7 the form of a charter or charter amendment.

8 EXPLANATION

9 This bill provides that a county board of supervisors shall
10 submit a proposed charter or charter amendment including one
11 of three alternative forms of government which is received by
12 petition, directly to the county electorate at the next
13 general election. The three alternative forms of county
14 government which may be submitted to the county electorate by
15 direct petition are board of supervisors form, the board-
16 elected executive form, and the board-manager form. A
17 petition to the board of supervisors to submit one of the
18 three alternative forms of county government requires the
19 signatures of at least 25 percent of the votes cast in the
20 county for the office of president of the United States or
21 governor at the preceding general election or the signatures
22 of at least 10,000 eligible electors of the county, whichever
23 is fewer. The board is to submit the proposal requested by
24 petition to the county electorate in the same way as a
25 proposal from the charter commission is submitted.

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