

FEB 4 1998  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT

HOUSE FILE 2140  
BY WHITEAD

(COMPANION TO SF 121  
BY HANSEN)

Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act authorizing certain cities to provide for the direct  
2 election of mayor and mayor pro tem.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 2140

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 372.6A DIRECT ELECTION OF MAYOR  
2 AND MAYOR PRO TEM.

3 1. A city governed by council-manager-at-large form may,  
4 by petition and election, provide for the direct election of  
5 the mayor and mayor pro tem as a team in lieu of electing two  
6 of the five council members as provided in section 372.6.

7 2. Upon receipt of a valid petition as defined in section  
8 362.4, proposing that the mayor and mayor pro tem be elected  
9 as a team by the voters, the council, within thirty days of  
10 receipt of the petition, shall submit the question at a  
11 special city election to be held no earlier than sixty days  
12 after the petition is filed. If a majority of those voting at  
13 the special election approves the proposal for the direct  
14 election of mayor and mayor pro tem as a team, it is adopted  
15 and the office of mayor and mayor pro tem shall be placed on  
16 the ballot at the first regular city election held more than  
17 sixty days after the special election. If a majority does not  
18 approve the direct election of mayor and mayor pro tem as a  
19 team, the council shall not submit the same proposal to the  
20 voters within the next four years.

21 3. The election of mayor and mayor pro tem as a team shall  
22 follow the provisions of chapter 376. The selections for  
23 mayor and mayor pro tem shall be designated by the voters as  
24 if these two offices were one and the same. The names of  
25 nominees for mayor and mayor pro tem shall be grouped together  
26 in a set on the ballot according to which nominee for mayor is  
27 seeking office with which nominee for mayor pro tem.

28 4. The mayor and mayor pro tem are members of the council  
29 and may vote on all matters before the council.

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#### EXPLANATION

31 This bill allows cities with the council-manager-at-large  
32 form of government to allow, by petition and election, for the  
33 direct election of mayor and mayor pro tem as a team in lieu  
34 of electing two of the five city council members. Under  
35 present law, the council-manager-at-large form of government

1 provides for the election of five city council members, one of  
2 whom is chosen by the council to serve as mayor and another of  
3 whom is chosen by the council to serve as mayor pro tem.  
4 Under this bill, the mayor and mayor pro tem would continue to  
5 be allowed to vote on all matters before the council.

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