

# Senate File 246 - Introduced

SENATE FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
BY PUTNEY

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

## A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the ordering of political parties listed on  
2 the ballot.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:  
4 TLSB 2259SS 82  
5 sc/es/88

PAG LIN

1 1 Section 1. Section 49.31, subsection 1, unnumbered  
1 2 paragraph 2, Code 2007, is amended to read as follows:  
1 3 The commissioner shall determine the order of political  
1 4 parties and nonparty political organizations on the ballot.  
1 5 The sequence shall be the same for each office on the ballot  
1 6 and for each precinct in the county voting in the election.  
1 7 For the order of political parties in successive elections,  
1 8 the commissioner shall alternate the order determined in the  
1 9 last preceding election. A commissioner who succeeds to that  
1 10 office shall discern the order of political parties on the  
1 11 ballot determined by the previous commissioner and shall  
1 12 alternate the order as required by this paragraph.

1 13 Sec. 2. Section 49.31, Code 2007, is amended by adding the  
1 14 following new subsection:

1 15 NEW SUBSECTION. 8. For purposes of this section,  
1 16 "political party" means political party as defined by section  
1 17 43.2.

1 18 EXPLANATION

1 19 This bill requires the commissioner of elections to  
1 20 alternate the order of political parties on the ballot from  
1 21 that used in the previous election. Any commissioner  
1 22 succeeding to that office shall discern the ordering of  
1 23 political parties on the ballot that was utilized by the  
1 24 previous commissioner and shall continue to alternate the  
1 25 order in successive elections.

1 26 The bill also specifies that "political party" means a  
1 27 party which, at the last preceding general election, cast for  
1 28 its candidate for president of the United States or for  
1 29 governor, as the case may be, at least 2 percent of the total  
1 30 vote cast for all candidates for that office at that election.

1 31 LSB 2259SS 82

1 32 sc:rj/es/88