Senate File 276 - Introduced

SENATE FILE ______ BY COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 1123)

Passed	Senate,	Date	Passed	House,	Date
Vote:	Ayes	Nays	Vote:	Ayes	Nays
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A BILL FOR

1 An Act making technical changes to the laws relating to elections 2 and voter registration, making a penalty applicable, and 3 including effective date and applicability date provisions.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

5 TLSB 1288SV 83

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Section 1. Section 2.27, Code 2009, is amended to read as
    2 follows:
          2.27 CANVASS OF VOTES FOR GOVERNOR.
          The general assembly shall meet in joint session on the
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   5 same day the assembly first convenes in January of 1979 and 6 every four years thereafter as soon as both houses have been
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   7 organized, and canvass the votes cast for governor and
   8 lieutenant governor and determine the election. When the 9 canvass is completed, the oath of office shall be administered
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1 10 to the persons or person so declared elected. Upon being
1 11 inaugurated the governor shall deliver to the joint assembly
1 12 any message the governor may deem expedient.
1 13 Sec. 2. Section 8A.412, subsection 11, Code 2009, is
1 14 amended to read as follows:
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          11. Professional employees under the supervision of the
1 16 attorney general, the state public defender, the secretary of 1 17 state, the auditor of state, the treasurer of state, and the 1 18 public employment relations board. However, employees of the
1 19 consumer advocate division of the department of justice, other
1 20 than the consumer advocate, are subject to the merit system.
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          Sec. 3. Section 39A.2, subsection 1, paragraph f, Code
  22 2009, is amended to read as follows:
23 f. VOTING EQUIPMENT TAMPERING. Intentionally alters or
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1 24 damages any computer software or any physical part of a voting
1 25 machine equipment, automatic tabulating equipment, or any
1 26 other part of a voting system.
          Sec. 4. Section 43.4, unnumbered paragraph 4, Code 2009,
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1 28 is amended to read as follows:
  Within fourteen days after the date of the caucus the 30 county central committee shall certify to the county
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1 31 commissioner the names of those elected as party committee
  32 members and delegates to the county convention.
   33 commissioner shall retain precinct caucus records for
  34 twenty=two months. In addition, within fourteen days after
  35 the date of the precinct caucus, the chairperson of the county
     central committee shall deliver to the county commissioner all
    2 completed voter registration forms received at the caucus.
          Sec. 5. Section 43.5, Code 2009, is amended to read as
    4 follows:
          43.5 APPLICABLE STATUTES.
   6 The provisions of chapters 39, <u>39A</u>, 47, 48A, 49, 50, 51, 7 52, 53, 57, 58, 59, 61, 62, 68A, and 722 shall apply, so far
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   8 as applicable, to all primary elections, except as hereinafter
   9 provided.
                    NEW SECTION. 43.31 FORM OF OFFICIAL BALLOT ==
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          Sec. 6.
  11 IMPLEMENTATION BY RULE.
         The state commissioner shall adopt rules in accordance with
2 12
2 13 chapter 17A to implement sections 43.27 through 43.30, section
2 14 43.\overline{3}6, sections 4\overline{9}.30 through 49.41, section 49.57, and any
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2 15 other provision of the law prescribing the form of the 2 16 official ballot.

Sec. 7. Section 43.45, subsection 3, Code 2009, is amended 2 18 by striking the subsection.

Section 43.77, subsection 4, Code 2009, is amended Sec. 8. 2 20 to read as follows:

- 4. A vacancy has occurred in the office of senator in the 22 Congress of the United States, lieutenant governor, secretary 2 23 of state, auditor of state, treasurer of state, secretary of 24 agriculture, or attorney general, under the circumstances 25 described in section 69.13, less than eighty=nine days before 2 26 the primary election and not less than eighty=nine days before 2 27 the general election.
 - Sec. 9. Section 44.5, Code 2009, is amended to read as follows:

44.5 NOTICE OF OBJECTIONS.

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When objections are filed notice shall forthwith immediately be given to the affected candidate affected 33 thereby,. The notice shall be addressed to the candidate's 2 34 place of residence as given in the certificate of nomination, 2 35 stating that objections have been made to said the The notice shall include the time 1 certificate, also stating. 2 and place such of the hearing at which the objections will be 3 considered. The hearing shall be held not later than one week 4 after the objection is filed.

Sec. 10. Section 45.1, subsections 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, Code 6 2009, are amended to read as follows:

- Nominations for candidates for a representative in the 8 United States house of representatives may be made by 9 nomination petitions signed by not less than the number of 3 10 eligible electors equal to the number of signatures required 3 11 in subsection 1 divided by the number of congressional 3 12 districts. Signers of the petition shall be eligible electors 13 who are residents of the congressional district.
 14 3. Nominations for candidates for the state senate may be
- 3 15 made by nomination petitions signed by not less than one 3 16 hundred eligible electors who are residents of the senate 3 17 district.
- 4. Nominations for candidates for the state house of 3 19 representatives may be made by nomination petitions signed by 3 20 not less than fifty eligible electors who are residents of the 3 21 representative district.
- 5. Nominations for candidates for offices filled by the 23 voters of a whole county may be made by nomination petitions 24 signed by eligible electors who are residents of the county 3 25 equal in number to at least one percent of the number of 26 registered voters in the county on July 1 in the year 3 27 preceding the year in which the office will appear on the 3 28 ballot, or by at least two hundred fifty eligible electors who 29 are residents of the county, whichever is less.
 30 6. Nominations for candidates for the office
- 3 30 6. Nominations for candidates for the office of county 3 31 supervisor elected by the voters of a supervisor district may 3 32 be made by nomination petitions signed by eligible electors 33 who are residents of the supervisor district equal in number 34 to at least one percent of the number of registered voters in 35 the supervisor district on July 1 in the year preceding the year in which the office will appear on the ballot, or by at least one hundred fifty eligible electors who are residents of the supervisor district, whichever is less.

Sec. 11. Section 46.22, Code 2009, is amended to read as follows:

46.22 VOTING

Voting at judicial elections shall be by separate paper ballot, or optical scan ballot, or by voting machine in the 4 9 space provided for public measures. If separate paper ball 4 10 are used, the election judges shall offer a ballot to each If separate paper ballots 4 11 voter. If optical scan ballots are used, either a separate 12 ballot or a distinct heading may be used to distinguish the judicial ballot. Separate ballot boxes for the general 4 14 election ballots and the judicial election ballots are not 4 15 required. The general election ballot and the judicial

4 16 election ballot may be voted in the same voting booth. 4 17 Sec. 12. Section 47.3, Code 2009, is amended to read as 4 18 follows:

47.3 ELECTION EXPENSES.

The costs of conducting a special election called by 4 21 the governor, general election, and the primary election held 22 prior to the general election shall be paid by the county.

The cost of conducting other elections shall be paid by 4 24 the political subdivision for which the election is held. The 4 25 costs shall include, but not be limited to, the printing of

4 26 the ballots and the election register, publication of notices, 4 27 printing of declaration of eligibility affidavits, 4 28 compensation for precinct election boards, canvass materials, 29 and the preparation and installation of voting machines 4 30 equipment. The county commissioner of elections shall certify 4 31 to the county board of supervisors a statement of cost for an 32 election. The cost shall be assessed by the county board of 33 supervisors against the political subdivision for which the 4 34 election was held. 4 35 a. Costs of registration and administrative and 5 clerical costs shall not be charged as a part of the election costs. 5 If voting machines are automatic tabulating equipment 4 is used in any election, the county commissioner of elections 5 shall not charge any political subdivision of the state a 6 rental fee for the use of any voting machines automatic 7 tabulating equipment. 4. The cost of maintenance of voter registration records 9 and of preparation of election registers and any other voter 5 10 registration lists required by the commissioner in the 11 discharge of the duties of that office shall be paid by the 5 12 county. Administrative and clerical costs, incurred by the 5 13 registrar in discharging the duties of that office shall be 5 14 paid by the state. 5 15 Sec. 13. Secti Section 47.6, subsection 3, paragraph a, Code 5 16 2009, is amended to read as follows: 5 17 a. A city council or a, county board of supervisors, school district board of directors, or merged area board of 19 directors that has authorized a public measure to be submitted 5 20 to the voters at a special election held pursuant to section 5 21 39.2, subsection 4, shall file the full text of the public 5 22 measure with the commissioner no later than 5:00 p.m. on the 5 23 forty=sixth day before the election. Sec. 14. Section 48A.2, subsection 5, Code 2009, is 5 24 5 25 amended to read as follows: 5. "Voter registration form" means an application to 5 27 register to vote which must be completed by or on behalf 28 any person registering to vote. The voter registration form 29 may also be used to make changes to an existing voter 30 registration record. 5 31 Sec. 15. Section 48A.8, subsection 1, Code 2009, is 5 32 amended to read as follows: 1. An eliqible elector may register to vote by completing 34 a mail request that a voter registration form be mailed to the elector. The completed form may be mailed or delivered by the 1 registrant or the registrant's designee to the commissioner in 6 2 the county where the person resides. A separate voter registration form shall be signed by each individual 6 4 registrant. 6 6 5 Sec. 16. Section 48A.25A, subsection 1, Code 2009, is 6 6 amended to read as follows: 6 1. <u>a.</u> Upon receipt of an application for voter 8 registration by mail, the state registrar of voters 6 commissioner of registration shall compare the Iowa driver's 6 6 10 license number, the Iowa nonoperator's identification card 6 11 number, or the last four numerals of the social security 6 12 number provided by the registrant with the records of the 6 13 state department of transportation. To be verified, the voter 6 14 registration record shall contain the same name, date of 6 15 birth, and Iowa driver's license number or Iowa nonoperator's 6 16 identification card number or whole or partial social security 6 17 number as the records of the state department of 6 18 transportation. If the information cannot be verified, the 6 19 application shall be rejected recorded and the registrant 20 shall be notified of the reason for the rejection the status of the voter's record shall be designated as pending status. 6 6 22 The commissioner of registration shall notify the applicant 23 that the applicant is required to present identification 24 described in section 48A.8, subsection 2, before voting for the first time in the county. If the information can be 6 26 verified, a record shall be made of the verification and the 6 27 application shall be accepted status of the voter's record shall be designated as active status. 28 6 29 b. This subsection shall not apply to applications received from registrants pursuant to section 48A.7A.

Sec. 17. Section 48A.26, subsections 1 and 3, Code 2009, 6 32 are amended to read as follows: 6 33 1. a. Within Except as otherwise provided in paragraph 6 34 "b", within seven working days of receipt of a voter 6 35 registration form or change of information in a voter

1 registration record the commissioner shall send an

2 acknowledgment to the registrant at the mailing address shown 3 on the registration form. The acknowledgment shall be sent by 4 nonforwardable mail.

b. For a voter registration form or change of information <u>in a voter registration record submitted at a precinct caucus, </u> 7 the commissioner shall send an acknowledgment within forty=five days of receipt of the form or change of 9 information.

3. If the registration form is missing required 7 11 information pursuant to section 48A.11, subsection 8, the 7 12 acknowledgment shall advise the applicant what additional 7 13 information is required. The commissioner shall enclose a new 7 14 registration by mail form for the applicant to use. 7 15 registration form has no address, the commissioner shall make 7 16 a reasonable effort to determine where the acknowledgment 7 17 should be sent. If the incomplete application is received 18 during the twelve days before the close of registration for an 19 election, the commissioner shall provide the registrant with 20 an opportunity to complete the form before the close of 7 21 registration. If the incomplete registration form is received 22 during the period in which registration is closed pursuant to 23 section 48A.9 but by 5:00 p.m. on the Saturday before the 7 24 election for general and primary elections or by 5:00 p.m. 25 the Friday before the election for all other elections, the 26 commissioner shall send a notice advising the applicant of 7 27 election day and in=person absentee registration procedures 28 under section 48A.7A.

Sec. 18. Section 48A.27, subsection 4, paragraphs b and c, 7 30 Code 2009, are amended to read as follows:

b. If the information provided by the vendor indicates 32 that a registered voter has moved to another address within 33 the county, the commissioner shall change the registration 34 records to show the new residence address, and shall also mail 35 a notice of that action to both the former and new addresses 1 address. The notice shall be sent by forwardable mail, and 2 shall include a postage prepaid preaddressed return form by 3 which the registered voter may verify or correct the address 4 information.

c. If the information provided by the vendor indicates 6 that a registered voter has moved to an address outside the county, the commissioner shall make the registration record inactive, and shall mail a notice to the registered voter at 9 both the former and new addresses address.

The notice shall be sent by forwardable mail, and (1)11 shall include a postage paid preaddressed return card on which 8 12 the registered voter may state the registered voter's current 8 13 address.

(2) The notice shall contain a statement in substantially 8 15 the following form:

"Information received from the United States postal service 8 17 indicates that you are no longer a resident of, and therefore 8 18 not eligible to vote in (name of county) County, Iowa. If 8 19 this information is not correct, and you still live in (name 20 of county) County, please complete and mail the attached 21 postage paid card at least ten days before the primary or 8 22 general election and at least eleven days before any other 8 23 election at which you wish to vote. If the information is 24 correct and you have moved, please contact a local official in 25 your new area for assistance in registering there. If you do 8 26 not mail in the card, you may be required to show 27 identification before being allowed to vote in (name of 28 county) County. If you do not return the card, and you do not 29 vote in an election in (name of county) County, Iowa, on or 30 before (date of second general election following the date of 31 the notice) your name will be removed from the list of voters

8 32 in that county. To ensure you receive this notice, 33 being sent to both your most recent registration address and 34 to your new address as reported by the postal service."
35 Sec. 19. Section 48A.31, Code 2009, is amended to read as 8 35

follows:

48A.31 DECEASED PERSONS RECORD.

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The state registrar of vital statistics shall transmit or 4 cause to be transmitted to the state registrar of voters, once 5 each calendar quarter, a certified list of all persons 6 seventeen and one=half years of age and older in the state 7 whose deaths have been reported to the bureau of vital records 8 of the Iowa department of public health since the previous 9 list of decedents was certified to the state registrar of 9 10 voters. The list shall be submitted according to the 9 11 specifications of the state registrar of voters, who shall 9 12 determine whether each listed decedent was registered to vote

9 13 in this state. If the decedent was registered in a county 14 which uses its own data processing facilities for voter 9 15 registration recordkeeping, the registrar shall notify the 16 commissioner in that county who shall cancel the decedent's 9 17 registration. If the decedent was registered in a county for 9 18 which voter registration recordkeeping is performed under 19 contract by the registrar, the registrar shall immediately 9 20 cancel the registration and notify the commissioner of the 9 21 county in which the decedent was registered to vote of the 9 22 cancellation. The commissioner shall immediately cancel the 9 23 registration of any person named on the list of decedents. Sec. 20. Section 48A.37, subsection 2, Code 2009, is 9 25 amended to read as follows: 9 26 2. Electronic records shall include a status code 9 27 designating whether the records are active, inactive, 9 28 incomplete, pending, or canceled. Inactive records are 9 29 records of registered voters to whom notices have been sent 9 30 pursuant to section 48A.28, subsection 3, and who have not 9 31 returned the card or otherwise responded to the notice, and 9 32 those records have been designated inactive pursuant to 9 33 section 48A.29. Inactive records are also records of 34 registered voters to whom notices have been sent pursuant to 9 35 section 48A.26A and who have not responded to the notice. 1 <u>Incomplete records are records missing required information</u>
2 pursuant to section 48A.11, subsection 8. Pending records are 10 10 10 3 records of applicants whose applications have not been 10 4 verified pursuant to section 48A.25A. Canceled records are 10 5 records that have been canceled pursuant to section 48A.30. 10 6 All other records are active records. An inactive record 10 7 shall be made active when the registered voter requests an <u>10</u> 10 8 absentee ballot, votes at an election, registers again, 9 reports a change of name, address, telephone number, or 10 10 political party or organization affiliation. An incomplete <u>10</u> record shall be made active when a completed application is 10 12 received from the applicant and verified pursuant to section
10 13 48A.25A. A pending record shall be made active upon 10 14 verification or upon the voter providing identification 10 15 pursuant to section 48A.8. 10 16 Sec. 21. Section 48A.38, Code 2009, is amended by adding 10 17 the following new subsection: 10 18 <u>NEW SUBSECTION</u>. 1A. The registrar shall update 10 19 information on participation in an election no later than 10 20 sixty days after each election. 10 21 Sec. 10 22 follows: Sec. 22. Section 49.19, Code 2009, is amended to read as 10 23 49.19 UNPAID OFFICIALS, PAPER BALLOTS OPTIONAL FOR CERTAIN 10 24 CITY ELECTIONS. 10 25 The commissioner may appoint unpaid election precinct 10 26 officials to election boards, as provided by sections 49.15, 10 27 49.16, and 49.20, or elect not to use voting machines 10 28 <u>automatic tabulating equipment</u> even though they are it is 10 29 available, as permitted by section 49.26, or both, for any 10 30 election held for a city, even if the city has a population of 10 31 more than three thousand five hundred, if there is no contest 10 32 for any office on the ballot and no public question is being 10 33 submitted to the voters at that election. 10 34 Sec. 23. Section 49.25, subsections 1, 2, and 3, Code 10 35 2009, are amended to read as follows: 11 1. In any county or portion of a county for which voting -112 machines have been acquired under section 52.2 the The 11 3 commissioner shall determine pursuant to section 49.26, 11 4 <u>subsection 2</u>, in advance of each <u>an</u> election conducted for a 5 city of three thousand five hundred or less population, or any -116 school district, and individually for each precinct, whether -1111 7 voting ballots voted in that election shall be counted by 8 machine automatic tabulating equipment or by paper ballot precinct election officials. In counties in which 11 11 10 conventional paper ballots are not used If automatic -11 tabulating equipment will be used, the commissioner shall 11 12 furnish voting equipment for use by voters with disabilities. 2. The commissioner shall furnish to each precinct, in 11 13 11 14 advance of each election, voting machines meeting the 11 15 requirements of chapter 52 or voting booths, as the case may 11 16 be, in the following number: 11 17 a. At each regularly scheduled election, at least one for 11 18 every three hundred fifty voters who voted in the last 11 19 preceding similar election held in the precinct. 11 20 b. At any special election at which the ballot contains 11 21 only a single public measure or only candidates for a single

11 22 office or position, the number determined by the commissioner.

3. The commissioner shall furnish to each precinct where

11 24 voting is to be by paper ballot or optical scan ballot, 11 25 than by voting machine, the necessary ballot boxes, suitably 11 26 equipped with seals or locks and keys, and voting booths. 11 27 voting booths shall be approved by the board of examiners 11 28 voting machines and optical scan voting systems and shall 11 29 provide for voting in secrecy. At least one voting booth in 11 30 each precinct shall be accessible to persons with If the lighting in the polling place is 11 31 disabilities. 11 32 inadequate, the voting booths used in that precinct shall -11-33 include lights. Ballot boxes shall be locked or sealed before 11 34 the polls open and shall remain locked or sealed until the 11 35 polls are closed, except as provided in section 51.7 or to 12 1 provide necessary service to a malfunctioning portable vote 2 tallying device automatic tabulating equipment. If a ballot 3 box is opened prior to the closing of the polls, two precinct -12 12 12 4 election officials not of the same party shall be present and 12 5 observe the ballot box being opened. 12 Sec. 24. Section 49.26, Code 2009, is amended to read as 12 7 follows: 12 49.26 COMMISSIONER TO DECIDE METHOD OF VOTING == COUNTING 8 12 9 OF BALLOTS. 12 10 1. In all elections regulated by this chapter, the voting 12 11 shall be by paper ballots printed and distributed as provided 12 12 by law, or by voting machines systems meeting the requirements 12 13 of chapter 52. 12 14 2. <u>a.</u> When voting machines are available for an election -12 15 precinct, the The commissioner shall determine in advance of 12 16 each election conducted for a city of three thousand five 12 17 hundred or less population or for any school district in which -12 18 voting occurs in that precinct whether voting there shall be -12 19 by machine or paper ballot whether the ballots will be counted 20 by automatic tabulating equipment or by the precinct election 12 21 officials. If In making such a determination, the 12 22 commissioner concludes, on the basis of shall consider voter 12 23 turnout for recent similar elections and factors considered 12 24 likely to affect voter turnout for the forthcoming election-12 25 <u>b. If the commissioner concludes</u> that voting will propable 12 26 be so light as to make preparation and use of paper counting 12 27 of ballots by the precinct elections officials less expensive If the commissioner concludes that voting will probably 12 28 than preparation and use of a voting machine automatic 29 tabulating equipment, paper ballots shall be used. The 30 commissioner may use ballots and instructions similar to those 12 30 commissioner may use ballots and instructions similar to t 12 31 used when the ballots are counted by automatic tabulating 12 32 equipment.
12 33 3. In counties in which automatic tabulating equipment is 12 34 available, the commissioner shall determine in advance of each -12 35 election whether the ballots will be counted by the automatic 1 tabulating equipment or by the precinct election officials. -13-13 2 The commissioner may use ballots and instructions similar to -13 3 those used when the ballots are counted by automatic -13 tabulating equipment. 13 5 Sec. 25. Section 49.28, subsection 3, Code 2009, is 6 amended by striking the subsection. 13 Sec. 26. Section 49.43, Code 2009, is amended to read as 13 13 8 follows: 13 9 49.43 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT OR OTHER PUBLIC MEASURE. 13 10 1. If possible, all public measures and constitutional 13 11 amendments to be voted upon by an elector shall be included on 13 12 a single ballot which shall also include all offices to be 13 13 voted upon. However, if it is necessary, a separate ballot 13 14 may be used as provided in section 49.30, subsection 1. 13 15 In precincts using paper ballots all public measures 13 16 voted upon by a voter at a given election shall be printed 13 17 upon one ballot of some color other than white. In precincts 18 using voting machines all public measures shall be placed on 13 19 the machine. 13 20 2. Constitutional amendments and other public measures may 13 21 be summarized by the commissioner as provided in sections 13 22 49.44 and 52.25. 13 23 Sec. 27. Section 49.44, unnumbered paragraph 2, Code 2009, 13 24 is amended by striking the paragraph. 13 25 Sec. 28. Section 49.48, Code 2009, is amended to read as 13 26 follows: NOTICE FOR JUDICIAL OFFICERS AND CONSTITUTIONAL 13 27 49.48 13 28 AMENDMENTS. 13 29 The state commissioner of elections shall prescribe a

13 30 notice to inform voters of the location on the ballot of the 13 31 form for retaining or removing judicial officers and for 13 32 ratifying or defeating proposed constitutional amendments. 13 33 The notice shall be conspicuously attached to the voting

13 34 machine or to the ballot.

Sec. 29. Section 49.53, subsection 1, Code 2009, is 13 35 1 amended to read as follows: 14

1. The commissioner shall not less than four nor more than $\ensuremath{\mathsf{T}}$ 14 twenty days before the day of each election, except those for which different publication requirements are prescribed by 14 14 14 5 law, publish notice of the election. The notice shall contain a facsimile of the portion of the ballot containing the first rotation as prescribed by section 49.31, subsection 2, and 14 6 14 14 8 shall show the names of all candidates or nominees and the 14 9 office each seeks, and all public questions, to be voted upon 14 10 at the election. The sample ballot published as a part of the 14 11 notice may at the discretion of the commissioner be reduced in 14 12 size relative to the actual ballot but such reduction shall 14 13 not cause upper case letters appearing in candidates' names or 14 14 in summaries of public measures on the published sample ballot 14 15 to be less than ninety percent of the size of such upper case 14 16 letters appearing on the actual ballot nine point type. The 14 17 notice shall also state the date of the election, the hours 14 18 the polls will be open, the location of each polling place at 14 19 which voting is to occur in the election, the location of the polling places designated as early ballot pick-up sites, and 20 14 21 the names of the precincts voting at each polling place, but 14 22 the statement need not set forth any fact which is apparent 14 23 from the portion of the ballot appearing as a part of the same 14 24 notice. The notice shall include the full text of all public 14 25 measures to be voted upon at the election. 14 26

Sec. 30. Section 49.56, Code 2009, is amended to read as follows:

49.56 MAXIMUM COST OF PRINTING.

The cost of printing the official election ballots and 14 30 printed supplies for voting machines shall not exceed the 14 31 usual and customary rates that the printer charges its regular 14 32 customers.

Sec. 31. Section 49.57, subsections 5 and 6, Code 2009,

14 34 are amended to read as follows:

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- 5. On ballots that will be counted by electronic automatic 1 tabulating equipment, ballots shall include a voting target 2 next to the name of each candidate. The position, shape, and 3 size of the targets shall be appropriate for the equipment to 4 be used in counting the votes. Where paper ballots are used, 5 a square may be printed at the beginning of each line in which 6 the name of a candidate is printed, except as otherwise 7 provided.
- 8 6. A portion of the ballot, which can be shown to the precinct officials without revealing any of the marks made by -15 10 the voter, shall include the words "Official ballot", the 15 11 unique identification number or name assigned by the 15 12 commissioner to the ballot style, the date of the election, 15 13 and a facsimile of the signature of the commissioner who has 15 14 caused the ballot to be printed pursuant to section 49.51. 15 15 15 16 Sec. 32. <u>NEW SECTION</u>. IMPLEMENTATION BY RULE. 49.57A FORM OF OFFICIAL BALLOT ==

The state commissioner shall adopt rules in accordance with

15 18 chapter 17A to implement sections 49.30 through 49.41, section 49.57, and any other provision of the law prescribing the form 15 20 of the official ballot.

Sec. 33. Section 49.84, Code 2009, is amended to read as 15 22 follows: 15 23 49.84

49.84 MARKING AND RETURN OF BALLOT.

1. a. After receiving the ballot, the voter shall 15 25 immediately go alone to one of the next available voting 15 26 booths booth, and without delay mark the ballot. All voters 15 27 shall vote in booths. No special lines shall be used to 15 28 separate voters who state that they wish to vote only a portion of the ballot.

- 15 30 <u>b.</u> Before leaving the voting booth, the voter shall fold -15 31 the ballot or may enclose it the ballot in a secrecy folder to 15 32 conceal the marks on the ballot. The voter shall deliver the 33 ballot to one of the precinct election officials. No. 15 34 identifying mark or symbol shall be endorsed on the back of 15 35 the voter's ballot.
- c. If the precinct has a portable vote tallying system 16 which automatic tabulating equipment that will not permit more 16 16 3 than one ballot to be inserted at a time, the voter may insert 16 4 the ballot into the tabulating device; otherwise, the election 5 official shall place the ballot in the ballot box. An 16 6 identifying mark or symbol shall not be endorsed on the
- voter's ballot.

 2. This section does not prohibit a voter from taking 16 16 9 minor children into the voting booth with the voter.

16 10 Sec. 34. Section 49.90, Code 2009, is amended to read as

16 11 follows: 16 12 49.90 ASSISTING VOTER. Any voter who may declare upon oath that the voter is 16 13 16 14 blind, cannot read the English language, or is, by reason of 16 15 any physical disability other than intoxication, unable to 16 16 cast a vote without assistance, shall, upon request, be 16 17 assisted by the two officers as provided in section 49.89, or 16 18 alternatively by any other person the voter may select in 16 19 casting the vote. The officers, or the person selected by the 16 20 voter, shall cast the vote of the voter requiring assistance, 16 21 and shall thereafter give no information regarding the vote 16 22 cast. If any elector because of a disability cannot enter the 16 23 building where the polling place for the elector's precinct of 16 24 residence is located, the two officers shall take a paper 16 25 ballot to the vehicle occupied by the elector with a 16 26 disability and allow the elector to cast the ballot in the 16 27 vehicle. If an elector with a disability cannot cast a ballot 16 28 on a voting machine, the elector shall be allowed to cast a -16 29 paper ballot, which shall be opened immediately after the 16 30 closing of the polling place by the two precinct election 31 officials designated under section 49.89, who shall register -16 32 the votes cast thereon on a voting machine in the polling 16 33 place before the votes cast there are tallied pursuant to 16 34 section 50.16. To preserve so far as possible the
16 35 confidentiality of each ballot of an elector with a -1 disability, the two officers shall proceed substantially in 17 2 the same manner as provided in section 53.24. In precincts 17 3 where all voters use paper ballots, those Ballots cast by 17 4 voters with disabilities shall be deposited in the regular 17 5 ballot box, or inserted in the tabulating device, and counted 17 6 in the usual manner. 17 Sec. 35. Section 49.99, subsection 2, Code 2009, is 17 8 amended to read as follows: 2. If a voter writes the name of a person more than once 17 17 10 in the proper places on a ballot or on a voting machine for an 17 11 office to which more than one person is to be elected, all but 17 12 one of those votes for that person for that office are void 17 13 and shall not be counted. 17 14 Sec. 36. Section 49.127, Code 2009, is amended to read as 17 15 follows: 17 16 49.127 COMMISSIONER TO EXAMINE MACHINES EQUIPMENT. 17 17 It shall be the duty of each commissioner to determine that 17 18 all voting machines are equipment is operational and 17 19 functioning properly and that all materials necessary for the 17 20 conduct of the election are in the commissioner's possession 17 21 and are correct. 17 22 Sec. 37. Section 50.15A, subsection 1, Code 2009, is 17 23 amended to read as follows: 17 24 In order to provide the public with an early source of 17 25 election results before the official canvass of votes, the 17 26 state commissioner of elections, in cooperation with the 17 27 commissioners of elections, shall conduct an unofficial 17 28 canvass of election results following the closing of the polls 17 29 on the day of a general election. The unofficial canvass 17 30 shall report election results for national offices, statewide 17 31 offices, the office of state representative, the office of 17 32 state senator, and other offices or public measures at the 17 33 discretion of the state commissioner of elections. The 17 34 unofficial canvass shall also report the total number of 17 34 unofficial canvass shall also report
17 35 ballots cast at the general election. 18 Sec. 38. Section 50.22, unnumbered paragraph 3, Code 2009, 18 is amended to read as follows: If a provisional ballot is rejected, the person casting the 18 4 ballot shall be notified by the commissioner within ten days 18 18 5 of the reason for the rejection, on the form prescribed by the 18 6 state commissioner pursuant to section 53.25, and the envelope 18 7 containing the provisional ballot shall be preserved unopened 18 8 and disposed of in the same manner as spoiled ballots. The provisional ballots which are accepted shall be counted in the 18 18 10 manner prescribed by section $\frac{53.24}{53.23}$, subsection $\frac{5}{5}$. 18 11 commissioner shall make public the number of provisional 18 12 ballots rejected and not counted, at the time of the canvass 18 13 of the election. 18 14 Sec. 39. Section 50.24, Code 2009, is amended to read as 18 15 follows: CANVASS BY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. 18 16 50.24 18 17 1. The county board of supervisors shall meet to canvass 18 18 the vote on the first Monday or Tuesday after the day of each 18 19 election to which this chapter is applicable, unless the law 18 20 authorizing the election specifies another date for the

18 21 canvass. If that Monday or Tuesday is a public holiday,

18 22 section 4.1, subsection 34, controls. 2. Upon convening, the board shall open and canvass the 18 23 18 24 tally lists and shall prepare abstracts stating, in words 18 25 written at length, the number of votes cast in the county, or 18 26 in that portion of the county in which the election was held, 18 27 for each office and on each question on the ballot for the 18 28 election. The board shall contact the chairperson of the 18 29 special precinct board before adjourning and include in the 18 30 canvass any absentee ballots which were received after the 18 31 polls closed in accordance with section 53.17 and which were 18 32 canvassed by the special precinct board after election day. 18 33 The abstract shall further indicate the name of each person 18 34 who received votes for each office on the ballot, and the 18 35 number of votes each person named received for that office, 19 1 and the number of votes for and against each question 19 2 submitted to the voters at the election. The votes of all 19 3 write=in candidates who each received less than two five 19 4 percent of the votes cast for an office shall be reported 19 5 collectively under the heading "scattering". 19 5 19 6 19 7 19 8 19 9 19 10 19 11 19 12 3. The board shall certify an election canvass summary report prepared by the commissioner. The election canvass 8 summary report shall include the results of the election, 9 including scatterings, overvotes, and undervotes, by precinct 10 for each contest and public measure that appeared on the 11 ballot of the election being canvassed. 19 12 $\frac{4}{1}$ The board shall $\frac{1}{2}$ prepare a certificate showing the 19 13 total number of people who cast ballots in the election. For 19 14 general elections and elections held pursuant to section 19 15 69.14, a copy of the certificate shall be forwarded to the 19 16 state commissioner. 19 17 5. Any obvious clerical errors in the tally lists from the 19 18 precincts shall be corrected by the supervisors. Complete 19 19 records of any changes shall be recorded in the minutes of the 19 20 canvass. 19 21 Sec. 40. Section 50.30, subsection 1, unnumbered paragraph 19 22 1, Code 2009, is amended to read as follows: 19 23 The commissioner shall, within ten thirteen days after the 19 24 election, forward to the state commissioner one of the 19 25 duplicate abstracts of votes for each of the following 19 26 offices: 19 27 Sec. 41. NEW SECTION. 50.30A ELECTION CANVASS SUMMARY 19 28 FORWARDED TO STATE COMMISSIONER. 19 29 The commissioner shall, within thirteen days after each 19 30 primary and general election, forward to the state 19 31 commissioner a true and exact copy of the election canvass 19 32 summary report certified by the county board of canvassers. 19 33 Sec. 42. Section 50.39, Code 2009, is amended to read as 19 34 follows: 19 35 ABSTRACT. 50.39 20 1 It shall make an abstract stating, in words written at 2 length, the number of ballots cast for each office, the names 3 of all the persons voted for, for what office, the number of 20 20 4 votes each received, and whom it declares to be elected, and 20 5 if a public question has been submitted to the voters of the 20 20 6 state, the number of ballots cast for and against the question and a declaration of the result as determined by the 20 20 8 canvassers; which abstract shall be signed by the canvassers 20 9 in their official capacity and as state canvassers, and have 20 10 the seal of the state affixed. 20 11 Sec. 43. Section 50.48, subsection 4, paragraphs a and c, 20 12 Code 2009, are amended to read as follows: 20 13 a. When all members of the recount board have been 20 14 selected, the board shall undertake and complete the required 20 15 recount as expeditiously as reasonably possible. The 20 16 commissioner or the commissioner's designee shall supervise 20 17 the handling of ballots or voting machine documents to ensure 20 18 that the ballots and other documents are protected from 20 19 alteration or damage. The board shall open only the sealed 20 20 ballot containers from the precincts specified to be recounted 20 21 in the request or by the recount board. The board shall 20 22 recount only the ballots which were voted and counted for the 20 23 office in question, including any disputed ballots returned as 20 24 required in section 50.5. If an electronic automatic 20 25 tabulating system equipment was used to count the ballots, the 20 26 recount board may request the commissioner to retabulate the 20 27 ballots using the electronic automatic tabulating system 20 28 equipment. The same program used for tabulating the votes on 20 29 election day shall be used at the recount unless the program 20 30 is believed or known to be flawed. If a voting machine was -20 31 used, the paper record required in section 52.7, subsection 2

20 32 shall be the official record used in the recount. However, if

20 33 the commissioner believes or knows that the paper records -20 34 produced from a machine have been compromised due to damage, -20 35 mischief, malfunction, or other cause, the printed ballot 1 images produced from the internal audit log for that machine 2 shall be the official record used in the recount. -2.1

c. The ballots or voting machine documents shall be 4 resealed by the recount board before adjournment and shall be 5 preserved as required by section 50.12. At the conclusion of 6 the recount, the recount board shall make and file with the 7 commissioner a written report of its findings, which shall be 8 signed by at least two members of the recount board. The 9 recount board shall complete the recount and file its report 21 10 not later than the eighteenth day following the county board's 21 11 canvass of the election in question. 21 12 Sec. 44. Section 51.15, Code 2009, is amended by striking

21 13 the section and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

51.15 APPLICABILITY OF LAW.

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21 15 This chapter shall apply to all elections in which the 21 16 commissioner has determined that paper ballots shall be used 21 17 and co 21 18 49.26. and counted by precinct election officials pursuant to section

Sec. 45. Section 52.1, subsection 1, Code 2009, is amended 21 20 to read as follows:

21 21 $\,$ 1. At all elections conducted under chapter 49, and at any 21 22 other election unless specifically prohibited by the statute 21 23 authorizing the election the commissioner directs otherwise 21 24 pursuant to section 49.26, votes may shall be cast, 21 25 registered, recorded, and counted by means of either voting 21 26 machines or optical scan voting systems, in accordance with 21 27 this chapter.

Sec. 46. Section 52.1, subsection 2, paragraph g, Code 21 29 2009, is amended by striking the paragraph.

Sec. 47. Section 52.3, Code 2009, is amended to read as 21 31 follows:

52.3 TERMS OF PURCHASE == TAX LEVY.

The county board of supervisors, on the adoption and 21 34 purchase of a voting machine or an optical scan voting system, 21 35 may issue bonds under section 331.441, subsection 2, paragraph , subparagraph (1).

Sec. 48. Section 52.4, Code 2009, is amended to read as follows:

52.4 EXAMINERS == TERM == REMOVAL.

- 1. The state commissioner of elections shall appoint three 6 members to a board of examiners for voting systems, not more than two of whom shall be from the same political party. The 8 examiners shall hold office for staggered terms of six years, 9 subject to removal at the pleasure of the state commissioner 22 10 of elections.
- 2. At least one of the examiners shall have been trained 22 12 in computer programming and operations. The other two members 22 13 shall be directly involved in the administration of elections 22 14 and shall have experience in the use of voting machines and 22 15 optical scan voting systems.

Sec. 49. Section 52.5, Code 2009, is amended to read as 22 17 follows:

52.5 TESTING AND EXAMINATION OF VOTING EQUIPMENT.

- 1. A person or corporation owning or being interested in a 22 20 voting machine or an optical scan voting system may request 22 21 that the state commissioner call upon the board of examiners 22 20 22 22 to examine and test the machine or system. Within seven days 22 23 of receiving a request for examination and test, the state 22 24 commissioner shall notify the board of examiners of the 22 25 request in writing and set a time and place for the 22 26 examination and test.
- The state commissioner shall formulate, with the advice 22 28 and assistance of the examiners, and adopt rules governing the 22 29 testing and examination of any voting machine or optical scan 22 30 voting system by the board of examiners. The rules shall 22 31 prescribe the method to be used in determining whether the 22 32 machine or system is suitable for use within the state and 22 33 performance standards for voting equipment in use within the 22 34 state. The rules shall provide that all optical scan voting 22 35 systems and voting machines approved for use by the examiners 1 after April 9, 2003, shall meet voting systems performance and 2 test standards, as adopted by the federal election commission 3 on April 30, 2002, and as deemed adopted by Pub. L. No. 4 107=252, } 222. The rules shall include standards for 6 modifications to the equipment or to the programs used in

23 5 determining when recertification is necessary following 23

23 7 tabulating votes, and a procedure for rescinding certification 23 8 if a system or machine is found not to comply with performance 23 9 standards adopted by the state commissioner. 23 10 3. The state commissioner may employ a competent person or 23 11 persons to assist the examiners in their evaluation of the 23 12 equipment and to advise the examiners as to the sufficiency of 23 13 the equipment. Consultant fees shall be paid by the person 23 14 who requested the certification. Following the examination 23 15 and testing of the voting machine or optical scan voting 23 16 system, the examiners shall report to the state commissioner 23 17 describing the testing and examination of the machine or 23 18 system and upon the capacity of the machine or system to 23 19 register the will of voters, its accuracy and efficiency, and 23 20 with respect to its mechanical perfections and imperfections. 23 21 Their report shall be filed in the office of the state 23 22 commissioner and shall state whether in their opinion the kind 23 23 of machine or system so examined can be safely used by voters 23 24 at elections under the conditions prescribed in this chapter. 23 25 If the report states that the machine or system can be so 23 26 used, it shall be deemed approved by the examiners, and 23 27 machines or systems of its kind may be adopted for use at 23 28 elections as provided in this section. Any form of voting 29 machine or system not so approved cannot be used at any 23 30 election. 23 31 4. Before actual use by a county of a particular optical

23 32 scan voting system which has been approved for use in this 23 33 state, the state commissioner shall formulate, with the advice 23 34 and assistance of the examiners, and adopt rules governing the 23 35 development of vote counting programs and all procedures used in actual counting of votes by means of that system.

Sec. 50. Section 52.6, Code 2009, is amended to read as follows:

52.6 COMPENSATION.

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1. Each examiner is entitled to one hundred fifty dollars 6 for compensation and expenses in making such an examination 7 and report <u>under section 52.5</u>, to be paid by the person or 8 corporation applying for <u>such the</u> examination. No examiner 9 shall have any interest whatever in any machine or system 24 10 reported upon. Provided that However, each examiner shall 24 11 receive not to exceed fifteen hundred dollars and reasonable 24 12 expenses in any one year; and all sums collected for such 24 13 examinations over and above said maximum salaries and expenses 24 14 shall be turned in to the state treasury.

An examiner shall not have any interest whatever in any 24 16 optical scan voting system reported upon.

Sec. 51. Section 52.8, Code 2009, is amended to read as 24 18 follows:

> 52.8 EXPERIMENTAL USE.

The board of supervisors of any county may provide for the 24 21 experimental use at an election in one or more districts, of $\frac{1}{2}$ -24 22 voting machine or an optical scan voting system which it might 24 23 lawfully adopt, without a formal adoption thereof of the 24 24 system; and its use at such election shall be as valid for all 24 25 purposes as if it had been lawfully adopted.

Sec. 52. Section 52.19, Code 2009, is amended to read as 24 27 follows: 24 28 52.19

52.19 INSTRUCTIONS.

In case any elector after entering the voting machine booth 24 30 shall ask for further instructions concerning the manner of 24 31 voting, two precinct election officials of opposite political 24 32 parties shall give such instructions to the elector; but no 24 33 precinct election official or other election officer or person 24 34 assisting an elector shall in any manner request, suggest, or 24 35 seek to persuade or induce any such elector to vote any 1 particular ticket, or for any particular candidate, or for or 2 against any particular amendment, question, or proposition. 3 After receiving such instructions, such the elector shall vote 4 as in the case of an unassisted voter.

Sec. 53. Section 52.23, Code 2009, is amended to read as 6 follows:

WRITTEN STATEMENTS OF ELECTION == OTHER PAPERS. 52.23

25 25 1. After the total vote for each candidate has been 2.5 9 ascertained, and before leaving the room or voting place, the 25 10 precinct election officials shall make and sign the tally list 25 11 required in section 50.16. One copy of the printed results from each tabulating device shall be signed by all precinct 13 election officials present and shall be attached to the tally 14 list from the precinct. The printed results attached to the 25 15 tally list shall reflect all votes cast in the precinct, 16 including overvotes and undervotes, for each candidate and

17 public measure on the ballot.

2. The inspection sheets from each machine used in the 25 19 election and one copy of the printed results from each machine

25 20 shall be signed by all precinct election officials and, with 25 21 any paper or papers upon which write-in votes were recorded by 25 22 voters, shall be securely sealed in an envelope marked with 23 the name and date of the election, the precinct, and the 25 24 serial numbers of the machines from which the enclosed results -25 25 were removed. This envelope shall be preserved, unopened, for -25 26 twenty=two months following elections for federal offices and 25 27 for six months following elections for all other offices 25 28 unless a recount is requested pursuant to section 50.48 or an 25 29 election contest is pending. The envelope shall be destroyed 25 30 in the same manner as ballots pursuant to section 50.13. 25 31 Additional copies of the results, if any, shall be delivered 25 32 to the commissioner with the other supplies from the election 33 pursuant to section 50.17. Sec. 54. Section 52.24, Code 2009, is amended to read as 25 34 25 35 follows: 26 52.24 WHAT STATUTES APPLY == SEPARATE BALLOTS. 26 All of the provisions of the election law not inconsistent 3 with the provisions of this chapter shall apply with full -2.6-2.64 force to all counties adopting the use of voting machines. 26 5 Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as prohibiting the 6 use of a separate ballot for public measures. 2.6 26 Sec. 55. Section 52.25, Code 2009, is amended to read as 26 8 follows: 9 52.25 SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT OR PUBLIC MEASURE. 26 1. The question of a constitutional convention, 26 10 26 11 amendments, and public measures including bond issues may be 26 12 voted on voting machines and on ballots in the following 26 13 manner: 1. a. The entire convention question, amendment, or 26 14 26 15 public measure shall be printed and displayed prominently in 26 16 at least four places one place within the voting precinct, and 26 17 inside each voting booth, the printing to be in conformity 26 18 with the provisions of chapter 49. 26 19 <u>b.</u> The question, amendment, or measure, and summaries 26 20 thereof, shall be printed on the special paper ballots or on 26 21 the inserts used in the voting machines. In no case shall the 26 22 font size be less than ten point type. 26 23 3. 2. The public measure shall be summarized by the 26 24 commissioner, except that: 26 25 a. In the case of the question of a constitutional 26 26 convention, or of an amendment or measure to be voted on in 26 27 the entire state, the summary shall be worded by the state 26 28 commissioner of elections as required by section 49.44. 26 29 b. In the case of a public question to be voted on in a 26 30 political subdivision lying in more than one county, the 26 31 summary shall be worded by the commissioner responsible under 26 32 section 47.2 for conducting that election. 26 33 Sec. 56. Section 52.27, Code 2009, is amended to read as 26 33 26 34 follows: COMMISSIONER TO PROVIDE OPTICAL SCAN VOTING 26 35 52.27 27 EQUIPMENT. 27 The commissioner having jurisdiction of any precinct for 27 3 which the board of supervisors has adopted voting by means of 27 4 an optical scan voting system shall, as soon as practicable 27 5 thereafter, provide for use at each election held in the 27 6 precinct optical scan ballots and ballot marking devices in 27 7 appropriate numbers. The commissioner shall have custody of 8 all equipment required for use of the optical scan voting 2.7 27 9 system, and shall be responsible for maintaining it in good 27 10 condition and for storing it between elections. A]] 11 provisions of chapter 49 relative to times and circumstances -27 12 under which voting machines are to be used in any election and 27 13 the number of voting machines to be provided shall also govern 27 14 the use of optical scan voting systems, when applicable.
27 15 Sec. 57. Section 52.28, Code 2009, is amended to read as 27 16 follows: $52.28\,$ OPTICAL SCAN VOTING SYSTEM BALLOT FORMS. The commissioner of each county in which the use of an 27 17 27 18 27 19 optical scan voting system in one or more precincts has been 27 20 authorized shall <u>print optical scan ballots using black ink on 27 21 white paper and shall</u> determine the arrangement of candidates' 27 22 names and public questions upon the ballot or ballots used 27 23 with the system. The ballot information shall be arranged as 27 24 required by chapters 43 and 49, and by any relevant provisions 27 25 of any statutes which specify the form of ballots for special

27 26 elections, so far as possible within the constraints of the 27 27 physical characteristics of the optical scan voting system in 27 28 use in that county. The state commissioner may adopt rules 27 29 requiring a reasonable degree of uniformity among counties in

27 30 arrangement of optical scan voting system ballots.

Sec. 58. Section 52.29, Code 2009, is amended to read as 27 32 follows: 27 33 52.29 OPTICAL SCAN VOTING SYSTEM SAMPLE BALLOTS. 27 34 The commissioner shall provide for each precinct where an 27 35 optical scan voting system is in use at least four one sample 1 optical scan ballots ballot which shall be an exact copies 2 copy of the official ballots as printed for that precinct. 28 28 28 3 The sample ballots shall be arranged in the form of a diagram 2.8 4 showing the optical scan ballot as it will appear to the voter 5 in that precinct on election day. The sample ballots ballot 6 shall be posted prominently within the polling place, and -2.828 2.8 7 shall be open to public inspection during the hours the polls 2.8 8 are open on election day. If the ballot used on election day 28 9 28 10 28 11 9 has offices or questions appearing on the back of the ballot, 10 both sides of the sample ballot shall be displayed. Section 52.41, Code 2009, is amended to read as Sec. 59. 28 12 follows: ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION OF ELECTION RESULTS. 28 13 52.41 With the advice of the board of examiners for voting 28 14 28 15 machines and electronic voting systems, the state commissioner 28 16 shall adopt by rule standards for the examination and testing 28 17 of devices for the electronic transmission of election 28 18 results. All voting systems which contain devices for the 28 19 electronic transmission of election results submitted to the 28 20 examiners for examination and testing after July 1, 2003, 28 21 shall comply with these standards. 28 22 Sec. 60. Section 53.2, subsections 5, 6, and 7, Code 2009, 28 23 are amended to read as follows: 28 24 5. An application for a primary election ballot which 28 25 specifies a party different from that recorded on the 28 26 registered voter's voter registration record, or if the 28 voter's voter registration record does not indicate a party 28 28 affiliation, shall be accepted as a change or declaration of 28 29 party affiliation. The commissioner shall approve the change 28 30 or declaration and enter a notation of the change on the 28 31 registration records at the time the absentee ballot request 28 28 is noted on the voter's registration record. A notice shall 28 33 be sent with the ballot requested informing the voter that the 28 34 voter's registration record will be changed to show that the 28 35 voter is now affiliated with the party whose ballot the voter 1 requested. <u>If an application for a primary election ballot</u> 2 does not specify a party and the voter registration record of 29 29 29 29 29 29 29 3 the voter from whom the application is received shows that the 4 voter is affiliated with a party, the voter shall be mailed 5 the ballot of the party indicated on the voter's registration 6 record. 6. If an application for an absentee ballot is received 29 8 from an eliqible elector who is not a registered voter the 2.9 9 commissioner shall send the eligible elector a voter 29 10 registration form under section 48A.8 and an absentee ballot -29 11 to the eligible elector instead of an absentee ballot. If the 29 12 application is received so late that it is unlikely that the -29 13 registration form can be returned in time to be effective on -29 14 election day, the commissioner shall enclose with the absentee 29 15 ballot a notice to that effect, informing the voter of the -29 16 registration time limits in section 48A.9. The commissioner -29 17 shall record on the elector's application that the elector is 29 18 not currently registered to vote. If the registration form is -29 19 properly returned by the time provided by section 48A.9, the 29 20 commissioner shall record on the elector's application the -29-21 date of receipt of the registration form and enter a notation -29-22 of the registration on the registration records. <u>If the</u> 29 23 application is received after the time registration closes 29 24 pursuant to section 48A.9 but by 5:00 p.m. on the Saturday 29 25 before the election for general and primary elections or by 29 26 5:00 p.m. on the Friday before the election for all other 29 27 elections, the commissioner shall notify the applicant of the 28 election day and in=person absentee registration provisions of 29 section 48A.7A.

30 7. A registered voter who has not moved from the county in 29 30 29 31 which the elector is registered to vote may submit a change of 29 32 name, telephone number, or address on the <u>absentee ballot</u> 29 33 application form prescribed in section 48A.8 when casting 29 34 requesting an absentee ballot. Upon receipt of a properly 29 35 completed form, the commissioner shall enter a notation of the 3.0 change on the registration records. 30 Sec. 61. Section 53.8, subsection 1, Code 2009, is amended 30 3 to read as follows: 30 1. Upon receipt of an application for an absentee ballot and immediately after the absentee ballots are printed, the

6 commissioner shall mail an absentee ballot to the applicant

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30 7 within twenty=four hours, except as otherwise provided in 8 subsection 3. The absentee ballot shall be enclosed in an 30 30 9 unsealed envelope bearing a serial number and affidavit. The 30 10 absentee ballot and unsealed envelope shall be enclosed in or 30 11 with a carrier return envelope marked postage paid which bears 30 12 the same serial number as the unsealed envelope. The absentee 30 13 ballot, unsealed envelope, and carrier <u>return</u> envelope shall 30 14 be enclosed in a third envelope to be sent to the registered 30 15 voter. If the ballot cannot be folded so that all of the 30 16 votes cast on the ballot will be hidden, the commissioner 30 17 shall also enclose a secrecy envelope with the absentee 30 18 ballot. 30 19

Sec. 62. Section 53.8, subsection 2, paragraph a, Code

30 20 2009, is amended to read as follows: 30 21 a. The commissioner shall enclos The commissioner shall enclose with the absentee ballot 30 22 a statement informing the applicant that the sealed carrier 30 23 $\underline{\text{return}}$ envelope may be mailed to the commissioner by the 30 24 registered voter or the voter's designee or may be personally 30 25 delivered to the commissioner's office by the registered voter 30 26 or the voter's designee. The statement shall also inform the 30 27 voter that the voter may request that the voter's designee 30 28 complete a receipt when retrieving the ballot from the voter. 30 29 A blank receipt shall be enclosed with the absentee ballot.

Section 53.17, subsections 1 and 2, Code 2009, Sec. 63. are amended to read as follows:

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1. The sealed envelope containing the absentee ballot 30 33 shall be enclosed in a carrier return envelope which shall be 30 34 securely sealed. The sealed carrier return envelope shall be 30 35 returned to the commissioner by one of the following methods:

a. The sealed carrier <u>return</u> envelope may be delivered by 2 the registered voter, by the voter's designee, or by the 3 special precinct election officials designated pursuant to 4 section 53.22, subsection 1, to the commissioner's office no 5 later than the time the polls are closed on election day. 6 However, if delivered by the voter's designee, the envelope 7 shall be delivered within seventy=two hours of retrieving it 8 from the voter or before the closing of the polls on election 9 day, whichever is earlier.

31 10 b. The sealed carrier <u>return</u> envelope may be mailed to the 31 11 commissioner by the registered voter or by the voter's 31 12 designee. If mailed by the voter's designee, the envelope 31 13 must be mailed within seventy=two hours of retrieving it from 31 14 the voter or within time to be postmarked not later than the 31 15 day before the election, whichever is earlier.
31 16 2. In order for the ballot to be counted, the carrier

31 17 return envelope must be received in the commissioner's office 31 18 before the polls close on election day or be clearly 31 19 postmarked by an officially authorized postal service not 31 20 later than the day before the election and received by the 31 21 commissioner not later than noon on the Monday following the 31 22 election.

Sec. 64. Section 53.18, subsections 1 and 2, Code 2009, 31 24 are amended to read as follows:

1. When the return carrier envelope containing the 31 26 completed absentee ballot is received by the commissioner, the 31 27 commissioner shall at once record receipt of such ballot. 31 28 Absentee ballots shall be stored in a secure place until they 31 29 are delivered to the absentee and special voters precinct 31 30 board.

If the commissioner receives the return carrier 31 32 envelope containing the completed absentee ballot by $\frac{\text{five}}{\text{5:00}}$ 33 p.m. on the Saturday before the election for general and 31 34 primary elections and by five 5:00 p.m. on the Friday before 31 35 the election for all other elections, the commissioner shall 1 open the envelope to review the affidavit for any 2 deficiencies. If the affidavit contains a deficiency that 3 would cause the ballot to be rejected, the commissioner shall, 4 within twenty=four hours of the time the envelope was 5 received, notify the voter of that fact and that the voter may 6 correct the deficiency by five 5:00 p.m. on the day before the election.

Sec. 65. Section 53.21, subsection 2, paragraph b, Code 2009, is amended to read as follows:

b. The voter shall enclose one copy of the above statement in the return carrier envelope with the affidavit envelope and 32 12 retain a copy for the voter's records.
32 13 Sec. 66. Section 53.22, subsection 5, paragraph b, Code

32 14 2009, is amended to read as follows:

b. Absentee ballots voted under this subsection shall be 32 15 32 16 delivered to the commissioner no later than the time the polls 32 17 are closed on election day. If the ballot is returned by mail 32 18 the carrier return envelope must be received by the time the 32 19 polls close, or clearly postmarked by an officially authorized 32 20 postal service not later than the day before the election and 32 21 received by the commissioner no later than the time 32 22 established for the canvass by the board of supervisors for 32 23 that election. 32 24

Sec. 67. Section 53.25, Code 2009, is amended to read as 32 25 follows:

53.25 REJECTING BALLOT.

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If the absentee voter's affidavit is found to be 32 28 insufficient lacks the voter's signature, if the applicant is 32 29 not a duly registered voter on election day in such the 32 30 precinct where the absentee ballot was cast, if the affidavit 31 envelope contains more than one ballot of any one kind, or if 32 32 the voter has voted in person, such vote shall not be accepted 33 or counted rejected by the absentee and special voters 32 34 precinct board. If the affidavit envelope is open, or has 32 35 been opened and resealed, or if the ballot is not enclosed in 1 the affidavit envelope, and an affidavit envelope with the 2 same serial number and marked "Replacement ballot" is not 3 attached as provided in section 53.18, the vote shall not be 4 accepted or counted rejected by the absentee and special 5 voters precinct board.

6 <u>2.</u> If the absentee ballot is rejected prior to the opening 7 of the affidavit envelope, the voter casting the ballot shall 8 be notified by a precinct election official by the time the 9 canvass is completed of the reason for the rejection on a form 33 10 prescribed by the state commissioner of elections.

Sec. 68. Section 53.30, Code 2009, is amended to read as 33 12 follows:

53.30 BALLOTS, BALLOT ENVELOPES, AND OTHER INFORMATION 33 14 PRESERVED.

At the conclusion of each meeting of the absentee and 33 16 special voter's precinct board, the board shall securely seal 33 17 all ballots counted by them in the manner prescribed in 33 18 section 50.12. The ballot envelopes, including the envelope 33 19 having the registered voter's affidavit on it, the return 33 20 carrier envelope, and secrecy envelope bearing the signatures 33 21 of precinct election officials, as required by section 53.23, 33 22 shall be preserved. All applications for absentee ballots, 33 23 ballots rejected without being opened, absentee ballot logs, 33 24 and any other documents pertaining to the absentee ballot 33 25 process shall be preserved until such time as the documents 33 26 may be destroyed pursuant to section 50.19.

Sec. 69. Section 53.40, subsection 1, paragraph c, Code 33 28 2009, is amended to read as follows:

33 29 c. A request shall show the residence (including street 33 30 address, if any) of the voter, and the age of the voter, and 33 31 length of residence in the city or township, county and state, 33 32 and shall designate the address to which the ballot is to be 33 33 sent, and in. In the case of the primary election, the 33 34 request shall also show the party affiliation of such the 33 34 request shall also snow the party attribution of the commissioner of 33 35 voter. Such The request shall be made to the commissioner of the request shall be made to the commissioner of the request shall be made to the commissioner of the request shall be made to the commissioner of the request shall be made to the commissioner of the request shall be made to the commissioner of the request shall be made to the commissioner of the request shall be made to the commissioner of the request shall be made to the commissioner of the request shall be made to the commissioner of the request shall be made to the commissioner of the request shall be made to the commissioner of the request shall be made to the commissioner of the request shall be made to the commissioner of the request shall be made to the commissioner of the request shall be made to 1 the county of the voter's residence, provided that. However, 2 if the request is made by the voter to any elective state, 3 city, or county official, the said official shall forward it

4 to the commissioner of the county of the voter's residence, 5 and such request so forwarded shall have the same force and 6 effect as if made direct directly to the commissioner by the 7 8

Sec. 70. Section 53.53, subsection 4, paragraph b, Code 2009, is amended to read as follows:

34 34 10 The voter's application for a regular absentee ballot b. 34 11 was received by the commissioner less than fourteen days prior 34 12 to the election. <u>However</u>, if the voter's application for a 34 13 regular absentee ballot is not received by the commissioner 34 14 and if the federal write=in absentee ballot is not prohibited 15 by another provision of this subsection, a federal write=in 16 absentee ballot cast by the voter and received by the

34 17 commissioner is valid. 34 18 Section 69.8, subsection 2, Code 2009, is amended 34 18 Sec. 71. Sectio 34 19 to read as follows:

34 20 2. STATE OFFICES. In all state offices, judges of courts 34 21 of record, officers, trustees, inspectors, and members of all 34 22 boards or commissions, and all persons filling any position of 34 23 trust or profit in the state, by the governor, except when 34 24 some other method is specially provided. An appointment b 34 25 the governor to fill a vacancy in the office of lieutenant 34 26 governor shall be for the balance of the unexpired term. An appointment by 34 27 appointment made under this subsection to a state office 34 28 subject to section 69.13 shall be for the period until the

34 29 vacancy is filled by election pursuant to law. Sec. 72. Section 256.11, subsection 5, paragraph b, Code 34 31 34 32 2009, is amended to read as follows: Five units of the social studies including instruction h. 34 33 in voting statutes and procedures, voter registration 34 34 requirements, the use of paper ballots and voting machines 34 35 <u>systems</u> in the election process, and the method of acquiring 35 1 and casting an absentee ballot. All students shall complete a 35 2 minimum of one=half unit of United States government and one unit of United States history. The one=half unit of United 35 States government shall include the voting procedure as 35 5 described in this lettered paragraph and section 280.9A. 35 35 6 government instruction shall also include a study of the 35 Constitution of the United States and the Bill of Rights 35 contained in the Constitution and an assessment of a student's 9 knowledge of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. 35 35 10 Sec. 73. Section 260C.15, subsection 1, Code 2009, is 35 11 amended to read as follows: 35 12 1. Regular elections held by the merged area for the 35 13 election of members of the board of directors as required by 35 14 section 260C.11, for the renewal of the twenty and one=fourth 15 cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation levy -35 16 authorized in section 260C.22, or for any other matter 35 17 authorized by law and designated for election by the board of 35 18 directors of the merged area, shall be held on the date of the 35 19 school election as fixed by section 277.1. However, elections 20 held for the renewal of the twenty and one=fourth cents per 35 21 thousand dollars of assessed valuation levy authorized in 35 22 section 260C.22 shall be held either on the date of the school 35 23 election as fixed by section 277.1 or at a special election 35 24 held on the second Tuesday in September of the even=numbered 35 25 year. The election notice shall be made a part of the local 35 26 school election notice published as provided in section 49.53 35 27 in each local school district where voting is to occur in the 35 28 merged area election and the election shall be conducted by 35 29 the county commissioner of elections pursuant to chapters 39 35 30 through 53 and section 277.20. 35 31 Sec. 74. Section 260C.22, Sec. 74. Section 260C.22, subsection 1, paragraph a, Code 35 32 2009, is amended to read as follows: 35 33 1. a. In addition to the tax authorized under section 35 34 260C.17, the voters in a merged area may at the regular school 35 35 election or at a special election held on the second Tuesday 36 in September of the even=numbered year vote a tax not 36 2 exceeding twenty and one=fourth cents per thousand dollars of 36 3 assessed value in any one year for a period not to exceed ten 4 years for the purchase of grounds, construction of buildings, 36 36 5 payment of debts contracted for the construction of buildings, 36 6 purchase of buildings and equipment for buildings, and the 7 acquisition of libraries, for the purpose of paying costs of 36 36 8 utilities, and for the purpose of maintaining, remodeling, 36 9 improving, or expanding the community college of the merged 36 10 area. If the tax levy is approved under this section, the 36 11 costs of utilities shall be paid from the proceeds of the 36 12 levy. The tax shall be collected by the county treasurers and 36 13 remitted to the treasurer of the merged area as provided in 36 14 section 331.552, subsection 29. The proceeds of the tax shall 36 15 be deposited in a separate and distinct fund to be known as 36 16 the voted tax fund, to be paid out upon warrants drawn by the 36 17 president and secretary of the board of directors of the 36 18 merged area district for the payment of costs incurred in 36 19 providing the school facilities for which the tax was voted. 36 20 Sec. 75. Section 275.18, subsection 3, Code 2009, is 36 21 amended to read as follows: 3. The area education agency administrator shall furnish 36 22 36 23 to the commissioner a map of the proposed reorganized area 36 24 which must be approved by the commissioner as suitable for 36 25 posting. The map shall be displayed prominently in at least 36 26 four places one place within the voting precinct, and inside 36 27 each voting booth, or on the left-hand side inside the curtain of each voting machine. 36 28 36 29 Sec. 76. Section 280.9A, subsections 1 and 2, Code 2009, 36 30 are amended to read as follows: 1. The board of directors of each local public school 36 31 36 32 district and the authorities in charge of each nonpublic 36 33 school shall require that all students in grades nine through 36 34 twelve complete, as a condition of graduation, instruction in 36 35 American history and the governments of Iowa and the United 1 States, including instruction in voting statutes and 2 procedures, voter registration requirements, the use of paper 37

3 ballots and voting machines systems in the election process, 4 and the method of acquiring and casting an absentee ballot.

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The county auditor, upon request and at a site chosen 6 by the county auditor, shall make available to schools within 37 37 7 the county voting machines equipment or sample ballots that 8 are generally used within the county, at times when these machines this equipment or sample ballots are not in use for 37 10 their recognized purpose. Sec. 77. Section 294.8, Code 2009, is amended to read as 37 11 37 12 follows: 37 13 294.8 PENSION SYSTEM. 37 14 Any A school district located in whole or in part within a 37 15 city having a population of twenty=five thousand one hundred 37 16 or more may establish a pension and annuity retirement system 37 17 for the public school teachers of such district provided said 37 18 system, However, in cities having a population less than 37 19 seventy=five thousand, establishment of the system shall be 37 20 ratified by a vote of the people at a general regular school 37 21 election. 37 22 Sec. 7 Sec. 78. Section 298.9, Code 2009, is amended to read as 37 23 follows: 37 24 298.9 SPECIAL LEVIES. 37 25 If the voter=approved physical plant and equipment levy, 37 26 consisting solely of a physical plant and equipment property 37 27 tax levy, is approved by the voters at the regular school an 37 28 election held on a date specified in section 39.2, subsection 37 29 4, paragraph "c", and certified to the board of supervisors 37 30 after the regular levy is made, the board shall at its next 37 31 regular meeting levy the tax and cause it to be entered upon 37 32 the tax list to be collected as other school taxes. If the 37 33 certification is filed prior to May 1, the annual levy shall 37 34 begin with the tax levy of the year of filing. If the 37 35 certification is filed after May 1 in a year, the levy shall 38 1 begin with the levy of the fiscal year succeeding the year of 38 the filing of the certification. Section 301.24, Code 2009, is amended to read as 38 Sec. 79. 38 follows: 38 301.24 PETITION == ELECTION. 38 Whenever a petition signed by one hundred eligible electors 38 residing in the school district or a number of eligible 38 8 electors residing in the school district equal to at least ten 38 9 percent of the number of voters in the last preceding regular 38 10 school election, whichever is greater, is filed with the 38 11 secretary thirty sixty days or more before the regular school 38 12 election, asking that the question of providing free textbooks 38 13 for the use of pupils in the school district's attendance 38 14 centers be submitted to the voters at the next regular school 38 15 election, the secretary shall cause notice of such the 38 16 proposition to be given in the notice of such the election. Sec. 80. Section 331.201, subsection 3, Code 2009, is 38 17 38 18 amended to read as follows: The office of supervisor is an elective office except 38 19 38 20 that if a vacancy occurs on the board, a successor shall may 38 21 be appointed to the unexpired term as provided in chapter 69 section 69.14A. 38 22 38 23 Sec. 81. Section 331.383, Code 2009, is amended to read as 38 24 follows: 38 25 331.383 DUTIES AND POWERS RELATING TO ELECTIONS. 38 26 The board shall ensure that the county commissioner of 38 27 elections conducts primary, general, city, school, and special 38 28 elections in accordance with applicable state law. The board 38 29 shall canvass elections in accordance with sections 43.49 to 38 30 43.51, 43.60 to 43.62, 46.24, 50.13, 50.24 to 50.29, 50. 38 31 50.47, 260C.39, 275.25, 277.20, 376.1, 376.7, and 376.9. 50.44 to 38 32 board shall prepare and deliver a list of persons nominated in 38 33 accordance with section 43.55, provide for a recount in 38 34 accordance with section 50.48, provide for election precincts 38 35 in accordance with sections 49.3, 49.4, 49.6 to 49.8, and 39 1 49.11, pay election costs as provided in section 47.3, 2 participate in election contests as provided in sections 62.1A 39 39 and 62.9, and perform other election duties required by state 39 The board may authorize additional precinct election 4 law. 39 5 officials as provided in section 51.1, provide for the use of a voting machine or an optical scan voting system as provided in sections 52.2, 52.3, and 52.8, and exercise other election 39 39 8 powers as provided by state law.
9 Sec. 82. Section 331.425, subsection 2, Code 2009, is 39 39 39 10 amended to read as follows: The election shall be held on the second first Tuesday 39 11

39 12 in March and be conducted by the county commissioner of 39 13 elections in accordance with the law. Sec. 83. Section 331.427, subsection 3, paragraph c, Code

39 15 2009, is amended to read as follows:

39 16 Purchase of voting machines systems and equipment under 39 17 chapter 52. 39 18 Sec. 84. Section 331.441, subsection 2, paragraph b, 39 19 subparagraph (1), Code 2009, is amended to read as follows: 39 20 (1) Voting machines or an An optical scan voting system. 39 21 Sec. 85. Section 331.502, subsection 17, Code 2009, is 39 22 amended to read as follows: 39 23 17. Make available to schools, voting machines equipment 39 24 or sample ballots for instructional purposes as provided in 39 25 section 280.9A. Sec. 86. Section 364.2, subsection 4, paragraph b, Code 2009, is amended to read as follows: 39 26 39 27 39 28 b. Such an ordinance shall not become effective unless 39 29 approved at an election. The proposal may be submitted by the 39 30 council on its own motion to the voters at any city election. 39 31 Upon receipt of a valid petition as defined in section 362.4 39 32 requesting that a proposal be submitted to the voters, the 39 33 council shall submit the proposal at the next regular city 39 34 election or at a special election called for that purpose 39 35 before the next regular city election. However, the city council may dispense with such election as to the grant, 40 40 2 amendment, extension, or renewal of an electric light and 40 3 power, heating, or gasworks franchise unless there is a valid 40 4 petition requesting submission of the proposal to the voters, 40 5 or the party seeking such franchise, grant, amendment, 40 6 extension, or renewal requests an election. If a majority of 40 those voting approves the proposal, the city may proceed as 40 8 proposed. The complete text of the ordinance shall be 40 9 included on the ballot if conventional paper ballots are used. 40 10 If an optical scan voting system or voting machine is used, 40 11 the proposal shall be stated on the optical scan ballot and on 40 the machine, and the full text of the ordinance posted for the 40 13 voters pursuant to section 52.25. All absentee voters shall 40 14 receive the full text of the ordinance. Sec. 87. Section 368.19, subsection 2, Code 2009, is 40 15 40 16 amended to read as follows: 2. The city shall provide to the commissioner of elections 40 17 40 18 a map of the area to be incorporated, discontinued, annexed, 40 19 severed, or consolidated, which must be approved by the 40 20 commissioner as suitable for posting. The map shall be 40 21 displayed prominently in at least four places one place within 40 22 the voting precinct, and inside each voting booth, or on the left-hand side inside the curtain of each voting machine. 40 23 Sec. 88. Section 372.13, subsection 2, paragraph b, Code 2009, is amended to read as follows: 40 24 40 25 b. (1) By a special election held to fill the office for 40 26 40 27 the remaining balance of the unexpired term. If the council 40 28 opts for a special election or a valid petition is filed under 40 29 paragraph "a", the special election may be held concurrently 40 30 with any pending election as provided by section 69.12 if by 40 31 so doing the vacancy will be filled not more than ninety days 40 32 after it occurs. Otherwise, a special election to fill the 40 33 office shall be called by the council at the earliest 34 practicable date. The council shall give the county 40 40 35 commissioner at least thirty=two days' written notice of the 41 1 date chosen for the special election. The council of a city 41 2 where a primary election may be required shall give the county 3 commissioner at least sixty days' written notice of the date 4 chosen for the special election. A special election held 41 41 41 41 5 under this subsection is subject to sections 376.4 through 41 6 376.11, but the dates for actions in relation to the special 41 election shall be calculated with regard to the date for which the special election is called. However, a nomination 41 petition must be filed not less than twenty=five days before 41 9 41 10 the date of the special election and, where a primary election 41 11 may be required, a nomination petition must be filed not less 41 12 than fifty=two fifty=three days before the date of the special 41 13 election. (2) If there are concurrent vacancies on the council and 41 14 41 15 the remaining council members do not constitute a quorum of 41 16 the full membership, a special election shall be called by the 41 17 county commissioner at the earliest practicable date. 41 18 remaining council members shall give notice to the county 41 19 commissioner of the absence of a quorum. If there are no 41 20 remaining council members, the city clerk shall give notice to 41 21 the county commissioner of the absence of a council. If the 41 22 office of city clerk is vacant, the city attorney shall give

41 21 the county commissioner of the absence of a council. If the 41 22 office of city clerk is vacant, the city attorney shall giv 41 23 notice to the county commissioner of the absence of a clerk 41 24 and a council. Notice of the need for a special election 41 25 shall be given under this paragraph by the end of the 41 26 following business day.

Sec. 89. Section 373.6, subsection 1, Code 2009, is 41 27 41 28 amended to read as follows:

1. If a proposed charter for consolidation is received not 41 29 41 30 later than sixty seventy=eight days before the next general 41 31 election, the council of the participating city with the 41 32 largest population shall, not later than sixty=nine days
41 33 before the general election, direct the county commissioner of
41 34 elections to submit to the registered voters of the 41 41 35 participating cities at the next general election the question 42 of whether the proposed charter shall be adopted. A summary 42 of the proposed charter shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in each city participating in the charter 42 commission process at least ten but not more than twenty days 42 before the date of the election. The proposed charter shall be effective in regard to a city only if a majority of the 42 42 6 electors of the city voting approves the proposed charter. Sec. 90. Section 376.4, Code 2009, is amended to read as 42 42 8 42 9 follows: 42 10

376.4 CANDIDACY.

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42 11 1. a. An eligible elector of a city may become a
42 12 candidate for an elective city office by filing with the city
42 13 clerk a valid petition requesting that the elector's name be
42 14 placed on the ballot for that office. The petition must be 42 15 filed not more than seventy=one days and not less than 42 16 forty=seven days before the date of the election, and must be 42 17 signed by eligible electors equal in number to at least two 42 18 percent of those who voted to fill the same office at the last 42 19 regular city election, but not less than ten persons.
42 20 However, for those cities which may be required to hold a 42 21 primary election, the petition must be filed not more than 42 22 eighty=five days and not less than sixty=eight days before the 42 23 date of the regular city election. A person may sign 42 24 nomination petitions for more than one candidate for the same 42 25 office, and the signature is not invalid solely because the 42 26 person signed nomination petitions for one or more other 42 27 candidates for the office. Nomination petitions shall be 42 28 filed not later than five o'clock 5:00 p.m. on the last day 42 29 for filing.

b. The petitioners for an individual seeking election from 42 31 a ward must be residents of the ward at the time of signing 42 32 the petition. An individual is not eligible for election from 42 33 a ward unless the individual is a resident of the ward at the 42 34 time the individual files the petition and at the time of 42 35 election.

The petition must include space for the signature 2. a. 2 signatures of the petitioners, a statement of their place of 3 residence, and the date on which they signed the petition. 4 person may sign nomination petitions for more than one 5 candidate for the same office, and the signature is not 43 6 invalid solely because the person signed nomination petitions for one or more other candidates for the office.

b. The petition must include the affidavit of the

9 individual for whom it is filed, stating the individual's 43 10 name, the individual's residence, that the individual is a 43 11 candidate and eligible for the office, and that if elected the 43 12 individual will qualify for the office. The affidavit shall 43 13 also state that the candidate is aware that the candidate is 43 14 disqualified from holding office if the candidate has been 43 15 convicted of a felony or other infamous crime and the 43 16 candidate's rights have not been restored by the governor or 43 17 by the president of the United States.

43 18 If the city clerk is not readily available during 43 19 normal office hours, the city clerk shall designate other 43 20 employees or officials of the city who are ordinarily 43 21 available to accept nomination papers under this section. 43 22 the final date for filing nomination papers the office of the 43 23 city clerk shall remain open until five 5:00 p.m.

4. The city clerk shall review each petition and affidavit of candidacy for completeness following the standards in 43 24 43 26 section 45.5 and shall accept the petition for filing if on 43 27 its face it appears to have the requisite number of signatures 43 28 and if it is timely filed. The city clerk shall note upon 43 29 each petition and affidavit accepted for filing the date and 43 30 time that they were filed. The clerk shall return any rejected nomination papers to the person on whose behalf the 43 32 nomination papers were filed.

43 33 5. Nomination papers filed with the city clerk shall be
43 34 available for public inspection. The city clerk shall deliver
43 35 all nomination petitions papers together with the text of any 1 public measure being submitted by the city council to the 2 electorate to the county commissioner of elections not later

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3 than five o'clock 5:00 p.m. on the day following the last day
    4 on which nomination petitions can be filed.
 44
          <u>6.</u>
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              Any person on whose behalf nomination petitions have
     6 been filed under this section may withdraw as a candidate by 7 filing a signed statement to that effect as prescribed in
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    8 section 44.9. Objections to the legal sufficiency of
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     9 petitions shall be filed in accordance with the provisions of
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44 10 sections 44.4, 44.5, and 44.8.
44 11 Sec. 91. Section 384.12, subsection 20, paragraphs a and 44 12 b, Code 2009, are amended to read as follows:
44 13 a. The election may be held as specified in this 44 14 subsection if notice is given by the city council, not later
 44 15 than thirty=two days before the <del>second</del> <u>first</u> Tuesday in March,
 44 16 to the county commissioner of elections that the election is
 44 17 to be held.
 44 18
          b. An election under this subsection shall be held on the
 44 19 second first Tuesday in March and be conducted by the county
 44 20 commissioner of elections in accordance with the law.
         Sec. 92. Section 468.511, subsections 2 and 3, Code 2009,
 44 21
 44 22 are amended to read as follows:
 44 23
          2. For the purpose of this subchapter, applications for
44 24 ballots shall be made on blanks substantially in the following
44 25 form:
             Application for ballot to be voted at the ..... (Name of District) District Election on ..... (Date)
44 26
44 27
 44 28 State of ......
44 29 ..... County ) ss. 44 30 I, ..... (Applicant), do solemnly swear that I am a
44 31 landowner in the ..... (Name of District) District and that I
44 32 am a duly qualified voter entitled to vote in said election,
44 33 and that on account of ...... (business, illness, residence 44 34 outside of the county, etc.) I cannot be at the polls on
<del>-44</del>
44 35 election day, and I hereby make application for an official
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     1 ballot or ballots to be voted by me at such election, and that
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     2 I will return said ballot or ballots to the officer issuing
    3 same before the day of said election.
45
45
                                            Signed .....
45
                                            Date .....
45
                             Residence (street number if any) ......
45
                             City ..... State .....
          Subscribed and sworn to before me this ... day of .....
45
45
       (month), ... (year)
         3. For the purpose of this subchapter, the affidavit on
45 10
45 11 the reverse side of the envelopes used for enclosing the
45 12 marked ballots shall be substantially as follows:
45 13 State of ......
45 14 ..... County ) ss.
45 15 I, ..... (Applicant), do solemnly swear that I am a
45 16 landowner in the ..... (Name of District) District and that I
45 17 am a duly qualified voter to vote in the election of trustees
45 18 of said district and that I shall be prevented from attending
45
    19 the polls on the day of election because of ......
45 20 (business, illness, residence outside of the county, etc.) and
45 21 that I have marked the enclosed ballot in secret.
 45 22
          Subscribed and sworn to before me this ... day of .....
45 23
45 24 (month), ... (year), and that I hereby certify that the
 45 25 affiant exhibited the enclosed ballot to me unmarked; that the
 45 26 affiant then in my presence and in the presence of no other
 45 27 person and in such manner that I could not see the affiant's
 45 28 vote, marked such ballot, enclosed and sealed the same in this
 45 29 envelope; and that the affiant was not solicited or advertised
45 30 by me for or against any candidate or measure.
45 31
 45 32
45 33
                                           (Official Title)
       Sec. 93. Sections 43.26, 48A.40, 49.35, 49.42A, 50.2, 52.7, 52.9, 52.10, 52.17, 52.18, 52.20, and 53.24, Code 2009,
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       are repealed.
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           Sec. 94. EFFECTIVE AND APPLICABILITY DATES.
           1. The section of this Act amending section 48A.27, being
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 46
       deemed of immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment
       and applies to notices mailed on or after the effective date.
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           2. The section of this Act amending section 298.9, being
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       deemed of immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.
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                                    EXPLANATION
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           This bill makes technical and corrective changes to the law
46 10 relating to elections and voter registration.
46 11 Code sections 2.27, 43.77, and 69.8 are amended to reflect
 46 12 the 1988 amendment to the Constitution of the State of Iowa
 46 13 requiring that the governor and lieutenant governor be elected
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46 14 jointly and to specify that a vacancy in the office of 46 15 lieutenant governor is to be filled by appointment by the 46 16 governor and the appointment is for the balance of the 46 17 unexpired term. 46 18

Code section 8A.412 is amended to add professional 46 19 employees under the supervision of the secretary of state to 46 20 the list of employees exempt from the merit system. 46 21 Code section 43.4 is amended to require that the

Code section 43.4 is amended to require that the county 46 22 commissioner of elections (county auditor) retain caucus 46 23 records for 22 months. The Code section is further amended to 46 24 require the chairperson of the county central committee, 46 25 within 14 days after the date of the precinct caucus, to 46 26 deliver to the county commissioner all completed voter 46 27 registration forms received at the caucus. Current law 46 28 provides that it is election misconduct in the third degree, a 46 29 serious misdemeanor, if a party committee member neglects to 46 30 perform a statutory duty relating to a precinct caucus. A 46 31 serious misdemeanor is punishable by confinement for no more 46 32 than one year and a fine of at least \$315 but not more than 46 33 \$1,875.

Code section 43.5 is amended to add Code chapter 39A, 46 35 relating to election misconduct, to the list of Code chapters applicable to primary elections.

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Code sections 43.26 and 49.42A, which illustrate the format of the official primary and general election ballots, are 4 repealed. New Code sections 43.31 and 49.57A are enacted to 5 require the state commissioner of elections to adopt administrative rules implementing ballot format and printing requirements.

Code section 44.5 is amended to provide that a hearing on an objection to a nomination shall be held not later than one 47 10 week after the objection is filed.

47 11 Code section 45.1 is amended to specify signers of 47 12 nomination petitions for elective offices are required to be 47 13 eligible electors who reside in the applicable county or 47 14 district.

Code section 47.6 is amended to require that the text of a 47 16 public measure to be submitted at election to the voters of a 47 17 school district or merged area must be submitted to the county 47 18 commissioner of elections no later than 5:00 p.m. on the 46th 47 19 day before the election.

47 20 Code section 48A.2 is amended to specify that the voter 47 21 registration form may be used to make changes in an existing 47 22 registration record in addition to being an application to 47 23 register to vote.

47 24 Code section 48A.8, relating to registering to vote by 47 25 mail, removes the reference to "mail registration form". The 47 26 same voter registration form is used whether or not a person 47 27 is registering by mail or in person.

Code section 48A.25A is amended to comply with the federal 47 29 Help America Vote Act requirement that identification numbers 47 30 on all voter registration applications, not just those 47 31 received by mail, be verified. The section is further amended 32 to provide that if the identification information cannot be 47 33 verified, the registration will be recorded as pending, and 47 34 the voter will be notified that the voter must present 35 identification before voting for the first time in the county. These requirements do not apply to election day registrants or in=person absentee registrants.

Code section 48A.26 is amended to provide that the commissioner of registration (county auditor) shall send an acknowledgment of receipt of voter registration or a change of information in a voter registration record within 45 days of receipt of the form or change of information if the form or change of information was submitted at a precinct caucus. Code section 48A.26 is also amended to provide that if an 48 10 incomplete registration form is received by the commissioner after registration closes but by 5:00 p.m. on the Saturday 48 11 before the election for primary and general elections or by 48 13 5:00 p.m. on the Friday before the election for all other 48 14 elections, the commissioner shall notify the applicant of 48 15 election day and in-person absentee registration procedures.

Code section 48A.27 is amended to require the commissioner 48 17 to send an acknowledgment of change of address information 48 18 received from the United States postal service to the new 48 19 address only. Current law requires that the acknowledgment be 48 20 sent to the former and new addresses. This section of the 48 21 bill takes effect upon enactment and applies to notices mailed 48 22 on or after the effective date.

Code section 48A.31, relating to purging the names of 48 24 deceased persons from voter registration lists, is amended to 48 25 delete language referring to the process that was in place 48 26 prior to implementation of the statewide voter registration

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48 27 system maintained by the secretary of state.
48 28 Code section 48A.37, relating to electronic voter
48 29 registration records, is amended to define "incomplete 48 30 records" as those registration records missing information 48 31 required to be included on the voter registration form. 48 32 section is further amended to provide that an incomplete 48 33 record shall be made an active record when a completed form is 48 34 provided and the information verified.

Code section 48A.38 is amended to require the state registrar of voters to update voter participation information 2 no later than 60 days after each election.

Code section 48A.40, relating to voter registration reports 4 required to be filed with the state registrar by the county 5 commissioner of registration, is repealed because the reports 6 are no longer necessary due to implementation of the statewide voter registration system maintained by the secretary of 8 state.

Code section 49.25 is amended to eliminate the requirement 49 10 that voting booths be approved by the board of examiners for 49 11 voting systems. Code sections 49.25 and 49.26 are amended to 49 12 remove duplicate language referring to those elections at 49 13 which the commissioner may determine whether ballots will be 49 14 counted by hand by election precinct officials or by automatic 49 15 tabulating equipment.

Code section 49.43 is amended to remove the requirement 49 17 that ballots containing public measures shall be printed on 49 18 other than white paper in those precincts using hand=counted 49 19 paper ballots.

Code section 49.53 is amended to provide that the minimum 49 21 font size for published ballots shall be nine point type, 49 22 rather than the current 90 percent of font size.

Code sections 49.57, 49.84, and 50.48 are amended to make 49 24 reference to the statutorily defined term "automatic 49 25 tabulating equipment" rather than electronic tabulating 49 26 equipment or vote tallying system.

Code section 49.57 is also amended to remove the 49 28 requirement that the words "Official ballot" be printed on the 49 29 ballot in such a way as would allow them to be shown to an 49 30 election official without revealing any of the marks made by 49 31 the voter.

Code section 50.15A is amended to require the state 49 33 commissioner to report in the unofficial canvass the total 49 34 number of ballots cast at the general election.

Code section 50.24 is amended to require the county board 1 of canvassers (board of supervisors), when canvassing the vote 2 after an election, to also certify the election canvass 3 summary report prepared by the county commissioner of 4 elections. Code section 50.30 is amended and new Code section 5 50.30A is enacted to require the commissioner to forward the 6 abstracts of votes and summary report to the state commissioner of elections within 13 days after each primary and general election.

Code sections 50.24 and 50.39 are amended to strike the 50 10 requirement that the abstract of votes state its required 50 11 information in words "written at length".

50 12 Code section 51.15, relating to double counting boards, is 50 13 amended to specify that the chapter applies to elections in 50 14 which paper ballots are to be counted by hand by the precinct 50 15 election officials. 50 16 Code section 52.

Code section 52.23 is amended to require that a copy of the 50 17 printed results from each automatic tabulating device be 50 18 signed by precinct election officials and attached to the precinct tally list and that the printed results shall reflect 50 20 all the votes cast in the precinct.

Code section 52.25 is amended to provide that the entire 50 22 text of a public measure, including measures related to the 50 23 Iowa constitution, shall be displayed in at least one place, 50 24 rather than the current four places, within the voting 50 25 precinct. Code section 52.25 is also amended to refer to 50 26 ballots generally rather than to special paper ballots. 50 27 Code sections 52.25 and 275.18 are amended, and Code

50 28 sections 49.35, 52.10, and 52.18 are repealed, to eliminate 50 29 references to lever voting machines, which are no longer used 50 30 in Iowa.

50 31 Code section 52.28 is amended to clarify that optical scan 50 32 ballots shall be printed using black ink on white paper.

50 33 Code section 52.29 is amended to conform to current law 50 34 regarding the requirement that one sample ballot be posted in 50 35 each precinct. The section is also amended to provide that if

an office or public measure is printed on the back of the 2 ballot, both sides shall be displayed.

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51 Code section 53.2 is amended to provide that the party 51 affiliation of a voter requesting an absentee ballot will be 5 changed at the time the request is recorded on the 51 51 6 registration record if the ballot requested is for a party other than the voter's current party affiliation or declaration. The Code section is amended to provide that if a 51 51 9 voter whose registration record indicates a party affiliation 51 10 requests a primary election ballot and does not indicate a 51 11 party on the ballot application, the voter shall be mailed the 51 12 ballot of the party indicated on the registration record. $51\ 13\ \text{Code}$ section $5\overline{3}.2$ is further amended to provide that if an 51 14 absentee ballot request is received from a person who is not 51 15 registered to vote, the commissioner shall send a voter 51 16 registration form to the person, rather than sending both a 51 17 registration form and an absentee ballot. The Code section is 51 18 further amended to provide that if the absentee ballot request 51 19 of a person not registered to vote is received after 51 20 registration closes but by 5:00 p.m. on the Saturday before 51 21 the election for primary and general elections or by 5:00 p.m. 51 22 on the Friday before the election for all other elections, the 51 23 commissioner shall notify the person of election day and 51 24 in=person absentee registration procedures. Finally, Code 51 25 section 53.2 is amended to provide that a change of name, 51 26 telephone number, or address on an absentee ballot application 51 27 of a voter who has moved within the county shall be used to 51 28 update the voter's registration record. 51 29

Code sections 53.8, 53.17, 53.18, 53.21, 53.22, and 53.30 51 30 are amended to conform to the current use of return envelope 51 31 to refer to the return postage envelopes containing an 51 32 absentee ballot.

Code section 53.25 is amended to specify that an 51 34 insufficient absentee ballot affidavit is one that lacks the 51 35 voter's signature. The section is also amended to conform statutory language on rejecting absentee ballots.

Code section 53.40, relating to an absentee ballot request from a person in the armed forces, is amended to strike the 4 requirement that the request include information on the length of residency in the city or township, county, and state because the federal application form does not include a space for that information.

Code section 53.53 is amended to conform to a federal court ruling that if the absentee ballot application of an overseas or military voter is not received by the commissioner, a federal absentee ballot cast by the voter and received by the 52 12 commissioner is valid.

Code sections 260C.15 and 260C.22 are amended to allow 52 14 community colleges to submit the question of imposing or 52 15 renewing the facilities property tax levy at the regular 52 16 school election in September of the odd-numbered year or at a 52 17 special election held on the second Tuesday in September of 52 18 the even=numbered year.

Code sections 275.18 and 368.19 are amended to provide that 52 20 a map of a proposed school district reorganization or proposed city annexation, respectively, shall be posted in one place, 52 21 52 22 rather than the current four, within the precinct.

Code section 294.8 is amended to provide that certain 52 24 elections held on school pension systems shall be held at the 52 25 regular school election rather than the general election.

Code section 298.9 is amended to specify that the portion of the physical plant and equipment levy that is required to 52 27 52 28 receive approval of the voters may be submitted at a special 52 29 election rather than only at the regular school election. 52 30 This section of the bill takes effect upon enactment.

Code section 301.24 changes the deadline for submitting a 52 32 petition requesting that the proposition to distribute free 52 33 textbooks in a school district be placed on the regular school 52 34 election ballot. The current deadline of 30 days before the 52 35 election is changed to 60 days before the election.

Code section 331.201, relating to a vacancy in the office of county supervisor, is amended to specifically refer to Code section 69.14A, rather than generally to Code chapter 69.

Code section 331.425, relating to a county special levy election, is amended to provide that the election shall be held on the first Tuesday in March, rather than the second 6 Tuesday in March.

53 8 Code section 372.13, relating to special elections to fill 53 9 a city council vacancy, is amended to change the filing 53 10 deadline for nomination petitions in cities with a primary 53 11 election from 52 days before the election to 53 days before

53 12 the election in order to avoid the deadline falling on a 53 13 Saturday.

Code section 373.6, relating to metropolitan consolidation 53 14 53 15 charters, is amended to change the filing deadline for 53 16 submission of the charter at a general election to no later 53 17 than 69 days before the election, which is the same as the 53 18 filing deadline for offices to be filled at the general 53 19 election.

Code section 376.4 is amended to clarify the process of 53 21 city clerks accepting and reviewing candidate nomination 53 22 papers filed for city office. 53 23 Code section 384.12, relating to a city special levy

53 24 election, is amended to provide that the election shall be 53 25 held on the first Tuesday in March, rather than the second 53 26 Tuesday in March.

Code section 468.511, relating to drainage district trustee 53 28 elections, is amended to remove language requiring an absentee 53 29 voter to specify the reason that the voter is voting absentee.

The following Code sections are amended to remove 53 30 53 31 references and requirements relating specifically to voting 53 32 machines (i.e., direct recording electronic devices), which 53 33 are no longer allowed for use in Iowa: 39A.2, 43.45, 46.22 53 34 47.3, 49.19, 49.25, 49.26, 49.28, 49.43, 49.44, 49.48, 49.56, 53 35 49.90, 49.99, 49.127, 50.22, 50.48, 51.15, 52.1, 52.3 through 1 52.6, 52.8, 52.19, 52.23, 52.24, 52.25, 52.27, 52.41, 256.11, 54 2 280.9A, 331.383, 331.427, 331.441, 331.502, and 364.2.

The following Code sections relating to voting machines, 4 are repealed: 50.2, 52.7, 52.9, 52.17, 52.18, 52.20, and 54 54 54 5 53.24.

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