

House Study Bill 142 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____

BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
STATE GOVERNMENT BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON COWNIE)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act requiring a separate tally of absentee votes by
2 precinct.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 49.31, subsection 7, Code 2011, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 7. For the purpose of ballot rotation the absentee ballot
4 and special voters precinct ~~may~~ shall not be considered a
5 separate precinct.

6 Sec. 2. Section 49.57, Code 2011, is amended by adding the
7 following new subsection:

8 NEW SUBSECTION. 8. Absentee ballots tabulated by an optical
9 scan voting system shall be coded with the resident precinct
10 number of the absentee voter. Absentee ballots counted by hand
11 shall include the resident precinct number of the absentee
12 voter.

13 Sec. 3. Section 52.33, Code 2011, is amended by adding the
14 following new subsection:

15 NEW SUBSECTION. 1A. For absentee ballots tabulated using
16 an optical scan voting system, the tabulating device shall be
17 programmed to produce a report showing the resident precinct
18 of the absentee voter.

19 Sec. 4. Section 53.23, subsection 2, Code 2011, is amended
20 to read as follows:

21 2. The board's powers and duties shall be the same as those
22 provided in chapter 50 for precinct election officials in
23 regular precinct polling places. However, the election board
24 of the special precinct shall receive from the commissioner and
25 count all absentee ballots for all precincts in the county;
26 when two or more political subdivisions in the county hold
27 elections simultaneously the special precinct election board
28 shall count absentee ballots cast in all of the elections so
29 held. The tally list shall be recorded on forms prescribed by
30 the state commissioner. The board shall also record a separate
31 tally of the votes for each candidate by resident precinct of
32 the absentee voter. The separate tally list shall be on a form
33 prescribed by the state commissioner and, upon request, shall
34 be made available for public inspection.

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EXPLANATION

1 This bill provides that the absentee ballot and special
2 voters precinct board shall record a separate tally of votes by
3 resident precinct of the absentee voter. The separate tally
4 shall be available for public inspection upon request.