

**House File 56 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 56

BY NUNN

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act lowering the age at which a person may register to vote  
2 and including effective date provisions.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 48A.5, subsection 2, paragraph c, Code  
2 2017, is amended to read as follows:

3 c. (1) Be at least eighteen years of age. Completed  
4 registration forms shall be accepted from registrants who are  
5 at least ~~seventeen and one-half~~ sixteen years of age; however,  
6 the registration shall not be effective until the registrant  
7 reaches the age of eighteen. The commissioner of registration  
8 shall ensure that the birth date shown on the registration form  
9 is at least ~~seventeen and one-half~~ sixteen years earlier than  
10 the date the registration is processed.

11 (2) A registrant who ~~is at least seventeen and one-half~~  
12 ~~years of age and who~~ will be eighteen by the date of a pending  
13 election is a registered voter for the pending election for  
14 purposes of [chapter 53](#).

15 Sec. 2. Section 48A.11, subsection 3, Code 2017, is amended  
16 to read as follows:

17 3. The following questions and statement regarding  
18 eligibility shall be included on forms that may be used for  
19 registration by mail:

20 [1] "Are you a citizen of the United States of America?"

21 [2] ~~"Will you be eighteen~~ "Are you at least sixteen years of  
22 ~~age on or before election day?"~~ age?"

23 [3] "If you checked 'no' in response to either of these  
24 questions, do not complete this form."

25 Sec. 3. Section 48A.14, subsection 1, paragraph b, Code  
26 2017, is amended to read as follows:

27 b. The challenged registrant is less than ~~seventeen and~~  
28 ~~one-half~~ sixteen years of age.

29 Sec. 4. Section 48A.23, subsection 1, Code 2017, is amended  
30 to read as follows:

31 1. At least twice during each school year, the board of  
32 directors of each school district operating a high school and  
33 the authorities in charge of each accredited nonpublic school  
34 shall offer the opportunity to register to vote to each student  
35 who is at least ~~seventeen and one-half~~ sixteen years of age.

1     Sec. 5. Section 48A.26, subsection 9, Code 2017, is amended  
2 to read as follows:

3     9. When a person who is at least ~~seventeen and one-half~~  
4 sixteen years of age but less than eighteen years of age  
5 registers to vote, the commissioner shall maintain a record of  
6 the registration so as to clearly indicate that it will not  
7 take effect until the registrant's eighteenth birthday and that  
8 the person is registered and qualifies to vote at any election  
9 held on or after that date.

10    Sec. 6. Section 48A.31, Code 2017, is amended to read as  
11 follows:

12     **48A.31 Deceased persons record.**

13     The state registrar of vital statistics shall transmit  
14 or cause to be transmitted to the state registrar of voters,  
15 once each calendar quarter, a certified list of all persons  
16 ~~seventeen and one-half~~ sixteen years of age and older in  
17 the state whose deaths have been reported to the bureau of  
18 vital records of the Iowa department of public health since  
19 the previous list of decedents was certified to the state  
20 registrar of voters. The list shall be submitted according  
21 to the specifications of the state registrar of voters. The  
22 commissioner shall, in the month following the end of a  
23 calendar quarter, run the statewide voter registration system's  
24 matching program to determine whether a listed decedent was  
25 registered to vote in the county and shall immediately cancel  
26 the registration of any person named on the list of decedents.

27    Sec. 7. Section 280.9A, subsection 3, Code 2017, is amended  
28 to read as follows:

29     3. At least twice during each school year, the board of  
30 directors of each local public school district operating a  
31 high school and the authorities in charge of each accredited  
32 nonpublic school operating a high school shall offer the  
33 opportunity to register to vote to each student who is at least  
34 ~~seventeen and one-half~~ sixteen years of age, as required by  
35 section 48A.23.

