

House File 148 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 148

BY M. THOMPSON, HENDERSON,
HAYES, DIEKEN, THOMSON,
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CISNEROS, and STOLTENBERG

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to changes in party affiliation prior to a
2 primary election.

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

1 Section 1. Section 43.41, Code 2023, is amended to read as
2 follows:

3 **43.41 Change or declaration of party affiliation before**
4 **primary.**

5 1. Any registered voter who desires to change or declare
6 a political party affiliation may, ~~before the close of~~
7 ~~registration for the primary election~~ no later than one hundred
8 forty-seven days before the primary election, file a written
9 declaration stating the change of party affiliation with the
10 county commissioner of registration who shall enter a notation
11 of such change on the registration records.

12 2. A registered voter shall not change or declare a
13 political party affiliation between the day one hundred
14 forty-six days before the primary election and the day of the
15 general election.

16 Sec. 2. Section 43.43, Code 2023, is amended to read as
17 follows:

18 **43.43 Voter's declaration of eligibility.**

19 Each person voting at a primary election shall sign a
20 declaration of eligibility which shall be in substantially the
21 following form:

22 I do solemnly swear or affirm that I am a resident of the
23 precinct, ward or township, city of
24, county of, Iowa.

25 I am a registered voter. I have not voted and will not vote
26 in any other precinct in this election.

27 I am affiliated with the party. ~~If my current voter~~
28 ~~registration record indicates another party affiliation or no~~
29 ~~party affiliation, I swear or affirm that I have in good faith~~
30 ~~changed my previously declared party affiliation, or declared~~
31 ~~my party affiliation, and now desire to be a member of the~~
32 ~~party indicated above.~~

33
34 Signature of voter
35

1 Address
2 (.....)
3 Telephone (optional)

4 Approved:
5

6 Election board member
7

8 Date

9 Sec. 3. Section 53.2, subsection 6, Code 2023, is amended by
10 striking the subsection.

11 Sec. 4. REPEAL. Section 43.42, Code 2023, is repealed.

12 EXPLANATION

13 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
14 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

15 This bill relates to declarations and changes of political
16 party affiliations. The bill requires a registered voter
17 wishing to declare or change a political party affiliation to
18 do so no later than 147 days before a primary election and
19 prohibits a registered voter from declaring or changing a
20 political party affiliation between 146 days before a primary
21 election and the date of the general election. The bill
22 repeals provisions allowing a registered voter to change or
23 declare a political party affiliation on the day of a primary
24 election or by submitting an absentee ballot request form.