

Senate File 2142 - Reprinted

SENATE FILE 2142
BY COMMITTEE ON STATE
GOVERNMENT

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 2001)

(As Amended and Passed by the Senate March 1, 2016)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to voter registration and voting by lowering
2 the age at which a person may register to vote and the age
3 at which a registered voter is eligible to vote in a primary
4 election and including effective date provisions.
5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 48A.5, subsection 2, paragraph c, Code
2 2016, is amended to read as follows:

3 c. (1) Be at least eighteen years of age. However,
4 for purposes of voting in a primary election, an eligible
5 elector shall be at least eighteen years of age on the date
6 of the general election. Completed registration forms shall
7 be accepted from registrants who are at least seventeen and
8 ~~one-half~~ years of age; ~~however,~~. For an election other than a
9 primary election, the registration shall not be effective until
10 the registrant reaches the age of eighteen. The commissioner
11 of registration shall ensure that the birth date shown on the
12 registration form is at least seventeen and ~~one-half~~ years
13 earlier than the date the registration is processed.

14 (2) A registrant who is at least seventeen and ~~one-half~~
15 years of age and who will be eighteen by the date of a pending
16 election is a registered voter for the pending election for
17 purposes of chapter 53. For purposes of voting in a primary
18 election under chapter 53, a registrant who will be at least
19 eighteen years of age by the date of the general election is a
20 registered voter for the pending primary election.

21 Sec. 2. Section 48A.11, subsection 3, Code 2016, is amended
22 to read as follows:

23 3. The following questions and statement regarding
24 eligibility shall be included on forms that may be used for
25 registration by mail:

26 [1] "Are you a citizen of the United States of America?"

27 [2] "Will you be eighteen years of age on or before election
28 day?"

29 [3] "If you checked 'no' in response to either of these
30 questions, do not complete this form. However, for purposes
31 of voting in a primary election, you may complete this form if
32 you are a citizen of the United States of America and you will
33 be at least eighteen years of age on the date of the general
34 election."

35 Sec. 3. Section 48A.14, subsection 1, paragraph b, Code

1 2016, is amended to read as follows:

2 *b.* The challenged registrant is less than seventeen ~~and~~
3 ~~one-half~~ years of age.

4 Sec. 4. Section 48A.23, subsection 1, Code 2016, is amended
5 to read as follows:

6 1. At least twice during each school year, the board of
7 directors of each school district operating a high school and
8 the authorities in charge of each accredited nonpublic school
9 shall offer the opportunity to register to vote to each student
10 who is at least seventeen ~~and one-half~~ years of age.

11 Sec. 5. Section 48A.26, subsection 9, Code 2016, is amended
12 to read as follows:

13 9. When a person who is at least seventeen ~~and one-half~~
14 years of age but less than eighteen years of age registers
15 to vote, the commissioner shall maintain a record of the
16 registration so as to clearly indicate that it will not take
17 effect until the registrant's eighteenth birthday and that the
18 person is registered and qualifies to vote at any election
19 held on or after that date. However, for purposes of voting
20 in a primary election, the registration shall take effect
21 immediately if the person will be at least eighteen years of
22 age on the date of the general election.

23 Sec. 6. Section 48A.31, Code 2016, is amended to read as
24 follows:

25 **48A.31 Deceased persons record.**

26 The state registrar of vital statistics shall transmit
27 or cause to be transmitted to the state registrar of voters,
28 once each calendar quarter, a certified list of all persons
29 seventeen ~~and one-half~~ years of age and older in the state
30 whose deaths have been reported to the bureau of vital records
31 of the Iowa department of public health since the previous list
32 of decedents was certified to the state registrar of voters.
33 The list shall be submitted according to the specifications
34 of the state registrar of voters. The commissioner shall, in
35 the month following the end of a calendar quarter, run the

1 statewide voter registration system's matching program to
2 determine whether a listed decedent was registered to vote in
3 the county and shall immediately cancel the registration of any
4 person named on the list of decedents.

5 Sec. 7. Section 49.79, subsection 2, paragraph b, Code 2016,
6 is amended to read as follows:

7 b. The For an election other than a primary election, the
8 challenged person is less than eighteen years of age as of the
9 date of the election at which the person is offering to vote.
10 For a primary election, the challenged person will be less than
11 eighteen years of age on the date of the general election.

12 Sec. 8. Section 49.81, subsection 4, paragraph a, Code 2016,
13 is amended to read as follows:

14 a. (1) The individual envelopes used for each provisional
15 ballot cast pursuant to subsection 1 shall have space for the
16 voter's name, date of birth, and address and shall have printed
17 on them the following:

18 I am a United States citizen, at least eighteen years of age
19 or, for purposes of voting in the primary election, I will
20 be at least eighteen years of age on the date of the general
21 election. I believe I am a registered voter of this county and
22 I am eligible to vote in this election.

23

24 (signature of voter) (date)

25 (2) The following information is to be provided by the
26 precinct election official:

27 Reason for casting provisional ballot:

28

29

30

.....

31

(signature of precinct

32

election official)

33 Sec. 9. Section 280.9A, subsection 3, Code 2016, is amended
34 to read as follows:

35 3. At least twice during each school year, the board of

1 directors of each local public school district operating a
2 high school and the authorities in charge of each accredited
3 nonpublic school operating a high school shall offer the
4 opportunity to register to vote to each student who is at least
5 seventeen ~~and one-half~~ years of age, as required by section
6 48A.23.

7 Sec. 10. Section 602.8102, subsection 15, Code 2016, is
8 amended to read as follows:

9 15. Monthly, notify the county commissioner of registration
10 and the state registrar of voters of persons seventeen ~~and~~
11 ~~one-half~~ years of age and older who have been convicted of a
12 felony during the preceding calendar month or persons who at
13 any time during the preceding calendar month have been legally
14 declared to be a person who is incompetent to vote as that term
15 is defined in [section 48A.2](#).

16 Sec. 11. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect January 1,
17 2017.