Senate File 2346 - Reprinted

SENATE FILE 2346

BY COMMITTEE ON STATE

GOVERNMENT

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 3191)

(As Amended and Passed by the Senate March 6, 2018)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the ballot arrangement for certain partisan
2   offices.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 49.31, subsection 1, Code 2018, is
2 amended to read as follows:
3 1. *a.* All ballots shall be arranged with the names of
4 candidates for each office listed below the office title.
5 For partisan elections the name of the political party or
6 organization which nominated each candidate shall be listed
7 after or below each candidate's name.
8 *b.* (1) The commissioner shall determine the order of
9 ~~political parties and nonparty political organizations~~
10 candidates on the ballot as provided in this paragraph. The
11 ~~sequence~~ order shall be the same for each office on the ballot
12 and for each precinct in the county voting in the election.
13 The commissioner shall arrange the ballot so that the
14 candidates of each political party, as defined in section 43.2,
15 for each partisan office appearing on the ballot shall appear
16 in descending order so that the candidates of the political
17 party whose candidate for governor received the greatest number
18 of votes in the commissioner's county at the most recent
19 general election for the office of the governor shall appear
20 first on the ballot, and the candidates of the political party
21 whose candidate for governor received the next greatest number
22 of votes in the commissioner's county in such an election
23 appear next on the ballot, and continuing in descending order
24 in the same manner.
25 (2) If the candidate for governor from two or more political
26 parties received the same number of votes in the county, the
27 commissioner shall determine the order of arranging political
28 party candidates for those political parties based upon the
29 number of votes received in the most recent general election
30 for the office of the governor for which the number of votes
31 received for the candidates of those political parties were
32 different.
33 *c.* The commissioner shall determine the order of candidates
34 of nonparty political organizations on the ballot. The order
35 shall be the same for each office on the ballot and for each

1 precinct in the county voting in the election.
2   Sec. 2. Section 49.31, subsection 2, paragraph b, Code 2018,
3 is amended to read as follows:
4   *b.* ~~The~~ Notwithstanding any provision of subsection 1,
5 paragraph *"b"*, to the contrary, the commissioner shall then
6 arrange the surnames of each political party's candidates for
7 each office to which two or more persons are to be elected at
8 large alphabetically for the respective offices for the first
9 precinct on the list; thereafter, for each political party and
10 for each succeeding precinct, the names appearing first for
11 the respective offices in the last preceding precinct shall
12 be placed last, so that the names that were second before the
13 change shall be first after the change. The commissioner may
14 also rotate the names of candidates of a political party in the
15 reverse order of that provided in this subsection or alternate
16 the rotation so that the candidates of different parties shall
17 not be paired as they proceed through the rotation. The
18 procedure for arrangement of names on ballots provided in this
19 section shall likewise be substantially followed in elections
20 in political subdivisions of less than a county.