

House File 954 - Reprinted

HOUSE FILE 954
BY COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 281)

(As Amended and Passed by the House March 25, 2025)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the conduct of elections, and including
2 effective date and retroactive applicability provisions.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

DIVISION I

ADMINISTRATION OF ELECTIONS

Section 1. Section 9E.6, subsection 3, paragraph b, subparagraph (1), Code 2025, is amended to read as follows:

(1) The state commissioner of elections shall, upon the written request of a party to the contest, certify the eligibility of a program participant to vote or the validity of a program participant's absentee ballot. A written request submitted under this paragraph "b" must contain the ~~voter~~ voter's four-digit personal identification number affixed to the program participant's absentee ballot.

Sec. 2. Section 39.2, subsection 1, paragraph a, Code 2025, is amended to read as follows:

a. All special elections which are authorized or required by law, unless the applicable law otherwise requires, shall be held on Tuesday. A special election shall not be held on the first, second, third, and fourth Tuesdays preceding and following the primary and the general elections or on the first, second, and third Tuesdays preceding and following a city or school election.

Sec. 3. Section 43.18, subsection 9, Code 2025, is amended to read as follows:

9. A statement that the candidate is aware that the candidate is disqualified from holding office if the candidate has been convicted of a felony or other infamous crime and the candidate's rights have not been restored by the governor or by the president of the United States. This subsection does not apply to candidates for federal office. The state commissioner shall prescribe a separate affidavit of candidacy for candidates for federal office.

Sec. 4. Section 43.67, subsection 2, paragraph i, Code 2025, is amended to read as follows:

i. A statement that the candidate is aware that the candidate is disqualified from holding office if the candidate has been convicted of a felony or other infamous crime and the candidate's rights have not been restored by the governor or by the

1 president of the United States. This paragraph does not apply
2 to candidates for federal office. The state commissioner shall
3 prescribe a separate affidavit of candidacy for candidates for
4 federal office.

5 Sec. 5. Section 44.3, subsection 2, paragraph i, Code 2025,
6 is amended to read as follows:

7 i. A statement that the candidate is aware that the candidate
8 is disqualified from holding office if the candidate has been
9 convicted of a felony or other infamous crime and the candidate's
10 rights have not been restored by the governor or by the
11 president of the United States. This paragraph does not apply
12 to candidates for federal office. The state commissioner shall
13 prescribe a separate affidavit of candidacy for candidates for
14 federal office.

15 Sec. 6. Section 45.3, subsection 9, Code 2025, is amended to
16 read as follows:

17 9. A statement that the candidate is aware that the candidate
18 is disqualified from holding office if the candidate has been
19 convicted of a felony or other infamous crime and the candidate's
20 rights have not been restored by the governor or by the president
21 of the United States. This subsection does not apply to
22 candidates for federal office. The state commissioner shall
23 prescribe a separate affidavit of candidacy for candidates for
24 federal office.

25 Sec. 7. Section 47.1, subsections 1, 6, 7, and 8, Code 2025,
26 are amended to read as follows:

27 1. The secretary of state is designated as the state
28 commissioner of elections and shall supervise the activities of
29 the county commissioners of elections. There is established
30 within the office of the secretary of state a division of
31 elections which shall be under the direction of the state
32 commissioner of elections. The state commissioner of elections
33 may appoint a person to be in charge of the division of
34 elections who shall perform the duties assigned by the state
35 commissioner of elections. The state commissioner of elections

1 shall prescribe uniform election practices and procedures, shall
2 prescribe the necessary forms required for the conduct of
3 elections, shall assign a number to each proposed constitutional
4 amendment and statewide public measure for identification
5 purposes, and shall adopt rules, pursuant to chapter 17A, to
6 carry out this section. The state commissioner of elections may
7 issue guidance and directives that ~~is~~ are not subject to the
8 rulemaking process to clarify election laws and rules.

9 6. The state commissioner may, at the state commissioner's
10 discretion, examine the records of a commissioner to evaluate
11 complaints and to ensure compliance with the provisions of
12 chapters 39 through 53. This examination shall include but not
13 be limited to assessments conducted or authorized by private or
14 government entities to evaluate a county's security readiness
15 for elections-related technology or physical facilities. The
16 state commissioner shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A to
17 require a commissioner to provide written explanations related
18 to examinations conducted pursuant to this subsection. Any
19 information that is requested by or in the possession of the
20 state commissioner pursuant to this chapter shall not lose its
21 confidential status pursuant to section 22.7, ~~subsection 50~~.

22 7. The state commissioner may share information a county
23 provides to an appropriate government agency to safeguard against
24 cybersecurity or physical threats. A county commissioner of
25 elections shall notify the state commissioner when the county
26 commissioner's office is involved in physical or cybersecurity
27 assessments performed by a federal or state agency or other
28 entity.

29 8. The state commissioner may adopt rules pursuant to chapter
30 17A to create minimum security protocols applicable to county
31 commissioners of elections and vendors utilized by the state
32 commissioner and county commissioners of elections. If a county
33 fails to adhere to these protocols, the state commissioner may
34 limit access to the statewide voter registration system. If a
35 vendor fails to adhere to these protocols, the state commissioner

1 may limit access to election infrastructure.

2 Sec. 8. Section 47.2, subsection 1, Code 2025, is amended to
3 read as follows:

4 1. The county auditor of each county is designated as
5 the county commissioner of elections in each county. The
6 county commissioner of elections shall conduct voter registration
7 pursuant to chapter 48A and conduct all elections within the
8 county. The county commissioner of elections does not possess
9 home rule powers with respect to the exercise of powers or duties
10 related to the conduct of elections prescribed by statute or
11 rule, or guidance or directives issued pursuant to section 47.1.

12 Sec. 9. Section 48A.26A, subsection 2, Code 2025, is amended
13 to read as follows:

14 2. If the acknowledgment is returned as undeliverable by
15 the postal service, the commissioner shall attempt to contact
16 the voter by forwardable mail. If a response is not received
17 from the voter within fourteen days after the notice is mailed,
18 the commissioner shall change the status of the registration to
19 inactive status and shall immediately notify the state registrar
20 of voters, the county sheriff, and the county attorney.

21 Sec. 10. Section 48A.37, subsection 1, Code 2025, is amended
22 to read as follows:

23 1. Voter registration records, including voter registration
24 forms, shall be maintained in an electronic medium on the
25 statewide voter registration system. A history of local election
26 participation shall be maintained as part of the electronic
27 record for at least two general, primary, school, and city
28 elections. Absentee voting shall be recorded for the previous
29 two general and primary elections. After each election, the
30 county commissioner shall update telephone numbers provided by
31 registered voters pursuant to section 49.77.

32 Sec. 11. NEW SECTION. **49.29 Electronic election register**
33 **and poll book.**

34 1. The commissioner may use an electronic election register
35 or election poll book in lieu of a paper register or poll book

1 if the electronic election register or poll book is a product
2 that has been certified for use in this state by the state
3 commissioner.

4 2. The state commissioner shall adopt rules pursuant to
5 chapter 17A for certification standards for electronic election
6 registers and election poll books. The certification standards
7 must include operational and security standards.

8 Sec. 12. Section 50.12, Code 2025, is amended to read as
9 follows:

10 **50.12 Return and preservation of ballots.**

11 Immediately after making the proclamation, and before
12 separating, the board members of each precinct in which votes
13 have been received by paper ballot shall enclose in an envelope
14 or other container all ballots which have been counted by them,
15 except those endorsed "Rejected as double", "Defective", or
16 "Objected to", and securely seal the envelope. The signatures
17 of all board members of the precinct shall be placed across the
18 seal or the opening of the container so that it cannot be opened
19 without breaking the seal. The precinct election officials shall
20 return all the ballots to the commissioner, who shall carefully
21 preserve them for six twenty-two months. ~~Ballots from elections~~
22 ~~for federal offices shall be preserved for twenty-two months.~~
23 The sealed packages containing voted ballots shall be opened
24 only for an official recount authorized by section 50.48, 50.49,
25 or 50.50, for an election contest held pursuant to chapters 57
26 through 62, to conduct an audit pursuant to section 50.51, or to
27 destroy the ballots pursuant to section 50.19.

28 Sec. 13. Section 50.19, subsection 1, Code 2025, is amended
29 to read as follows:

30 1. The commissioner may destroy precinct election registers,
31 the declarations of eligibility signed by voters, and other
32 material pertaining to any election in which federal offices
33 are not on the ballot, except the tally lists and abstracts of
34 votes which have not been electronically recorded, ~~six~~ twenty-two
35 months after the election if a contest is not pending. If a

1 contest is pending, all election materials shall be preserved
 2 until final determination of the contest or until twenty-two
 3 months after the election, whichever is later. Before destroying
 4 the election registers and declarations of eligibility, the
 5 commissioner shall prepare records as necessary to permit
 6 compliance with chapter 48A, subchapter V. ~~Nomination papers for~~
 7 ~~primary election candidates for state and county offices shall be~~
 8 ~~destroyed ten days before the general election, if a contest is~~
 9 ~~not pending.~~

10 Sec. 14. Section 53.2, subsection 4, paragraph c, Code 2025,
 11 is amended to read as follows:

12 c. For purposes of this subsection, "voter verification
 13 number" means the registered voter's driver's license number or
 14 nonoperator's identification card number assigned to the voter
 15 by the department of transportation or the registered voter's
 16 four-digit personal identification number assigned to the voter
 17 by the state commissioner pursuant to section 47.7 48A.10A,
 18 subsection 2 1.

19 Sec. 15. Section 53.10, subsection 2, paragraph b, Code 2025,
 20 is amended to read as follows:

21 b. For purposes of this subsection, "voter verification
 22 number" means the registered voter's driver's license number or
 23 nonoperator's identification card number assigned to the voter
 24 by the department of transportation or the registered voter's
 25 four-digit personal identification number assigned to the voter
 26 by the state commissioner pursuant to section 47.7 48A.10A,
 27 subsection 2 1.

28 Sec. 16. Section 53.23, subsection 3, paragraph a, Code 2025,
 29 is amended to read as follows:

30 a. The commissioner shall set ~~the~~ a convening time for the
 31 board of no later than 9:00 a.m. on election day, allowing a
 32 reasonable amount of time to complete counting all absentee
 33 ballots by 10:00 p.m. on election day.

34 Sec. 17. Section 54.5, subsection 3, Code 2025, is amended to
 35 read as follows:

1 3. Each elector nominee and alternate elector nominee of
2 a political party or group of petitioners shall execute the
3 following pledge on a form prescribed by the state commissioner,
4 which shall accompany the submission of the corresponding names
5 to the state commissioner:

6 If selected for the position of elector, I agree to serve and to
7 mark my ballots for president and vice president for the nominees
8 for those offices of the party (or group of petitioners) that
9 nominated me.

10 Sec. 18. Section 54.5, Code 2025, is amended by adding the
11 following new subsection:

12 NEW SUBSECTION. 5. An objection to a nomination made under
13 this section on any grounds other than the legal sufficiency
14 of the certificate of nomination shall not be sustained. The
15 certificate of nomination shall be presumed valid.

16 Sec. 19. Section 384.19, subsection 1, Code 2025, is amended
17 to read as follows:

18 1. Within a period of ten days after the final date that a
19 budget or amended budget may be certified to the county auditor,
20 persons affected by the budget may file a written protest with
21 the county auditor specifying their objections to the budget or
22 any part of it. A protest must be signed by registered voters
23 equal in number to one-fourth of one percent of the ~~votes cast~~
24 ~~for governor in the last preceding general election in the city,~~
25 ~~but the number shall not be less than ten persons and the number~~
26 ~~need not be more than one hundred persons~~ population of the city
27 according to the most recent federal decennial census or special
28 census, whichever is later.

29 DIVISION II

30 RANKED CHOICE VOTING

31 Sec. 20. Section 49.93, Code 2025, is amended to read as
32 follows:

33 **49.93 Number of votes for each office.**

34 1. For an office to which one person is to be elected, a
35 voter shall not vote for more than one candidate. If two or more

1 persons are to be elected to an office, the voter shall vote for
2 no more than the number of persons to be elected. If a person
3 votes for more than the permitted number of candidates, the vote
4 for that office shall not count. Valid votes cast on the rest of
5 the ballot shall be counted.

6 2. a. An election in this state shall not be conducted using
7 ranked choice voting or instant runoff voting.

8 b. For the purposes of this section, "ranked choice voting"
9 or "instant runoff voting" means a method of casting and
10 tabulating votes in which a voter ranks candidates in order of
11 preference, tabulation of ballots proceeds in rounds such that
12 in each round either a candidate is elected or the candidate
13 receiving the fewest votes is defeated, votes are transferred
14 from elected or defeated candidates to a voter's next-ranked
15 candidate in order of preference, and tabulation ends when a
16 candidate receives the majority of votes cast or the number of
17 candidates elected equals the number of offices to be filled, as
18 applicable.

19 Sec. 21. EFFECTIVE DATE. This division of this Act takes
20 effect January 1, 2026.

21 DIVISION III

22 PERSONS PERMITTED IN VOTING BOOTHS

23 Sec. 22. Section 49.88, subsection 3, Code 2025, is amended
24 to read as follows:

25 3. A person standing for election on the ballot before a
26 voter ~~shall not occupy~~ commits a violation of this section by
27 occupying the voting booth with the voter, including to assist
28 the voter.

29 Sec. 23. Section 49.90, Code 2025, is amended to read as
30 follows:

31 **49.90 Assisting voter.**

32 1. Any voter who may declare upon oath that the voter is
33 blind, cannot read the English language, or is, by reason of
34 any physical disability other than intoxication, unable to cast
35 a vote without assistance, shall, upon request, be assisted by

1 the two officers as provided in section 49.89, or alternatively
 2 by any other person the voter may select in casting the vote,
 3 except that the voter shall not select a person standing for
 4 election on the ballot. The officers, or the person selected by
 5 the voter, shall cast the vote of the voter requiring assistance,
 6 and shall thereafter give no information regarding the vote cast.
 7 If any elector because of a disability cannot enter the building
 8 where the polling place for the elector's precinct of residence
 9 is located, the two officers shall take a paper ballot to the
 10 vehicle occupied by the elector with a disability and allow the
 11 elector to cast the ballot in the vehicle. Ballots cast by
 12 voters with disabilities shall be deposited in the regular ballot
 13 box, or inserted in the tabulating device, and counted in the
 14 usual manner.

15 2. A person standing for election on the ballot before a
 16 voter commits a violation of section 49.88 by occupying the
 17 voting booth with the voter.

18 Sec. 24. EFFECTIVE DATE. This division of this Act takes
 19 effect January 1, 2026.

20 DIVISION IV

21 COUNTY HOSPITAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

22 Sec. 25. Section 347.9, subsection 3, Code 2025, is amended
 23 by striking the subsection.

24 Sec. 26. RETROACTIVE APPLICABILITY. This division of this
 25 Act applies retroactively to persons elected to a county hospital
 26 board of trustees on or after January 1, 2024.

27 DIVISION V

28 POLITICAL PARTY — DEFINITION

29 Sec. 27. Section 43.2, subsection 1, paragraph b, Code 2025,
 30 is amended to read as follows:

31 *b. "Political party" shall mean a party which, at the*
 32 *last three preceding general election elections, cast for its*
 33 *candidate for president of the United States or for governor, as*
 34 *the case may be, at least two percent of the total vote cast for*
 35 *all candidates for that office at ~~that election~~ those elections.*

1 It shall be the responsibility of the state commissioner to
2 determine whether any organization claiming to be a political
3 party qualifies as such under this paragraph.

4 Sec. 28. Section 43.63, subsection 1, Code 2025, is amended
5 to read as follows:

6 1. Upon receipt of the abstracts of votes from the counties,
7 the secretary of state shall immediately open the envelopes
8 and canvass the results for all offices. The secretary of
9 state shall invite to attend the canvass one representative from
10 each political party which, at the last three preceding general
11 ~~election~~ elections, cast for its candidate for president of the
12 United States or for governor, as the case may be, at least two
13 percent of the total vote cast for all candidates for that office
14 at ~~that election~~ those elections, as determined by the secretary
15 of state. The secretary of state shall notify the chairperson
16 of each political party of the time of the canvass. However,
17 the presence of a representative from a political party is not
18 necessary for the canvass to proceed.

19 Sec. 29. Section 50.36, subsection 2, Code 2025, is amended
20 to read as follows:

21 2. The secretary of state shall invite to attend the canvass
22 one representative from each political party which, at the
23 last three preceding general ~~election~~ elections, cast for its
24 candidate for president of the United States or for governor, as
25 the case may be, at least two percent of the total vote cast for
26 all candidates for that office at ~~that election~~ those elections,
27 as determined by the secretary of state. The secretary of state
28 shall notify the chairperson of each political party of the time
29 of the canvass. However, the presence of a representative from a
30 political party is not necessary for the canvass to proceed.

31 Sec. 30. Section 68B.2, subsection 13, paragraph b,
32 subparagraph (1), Code 2025, is amended to read as follows:

33 (1) Officials and employees of a political party organized
34 in the state of Iowa representing more than two percent of the
35 total votes cast for governor in the last three preceding general

1 ~~election~~ elections, but only when representing the political
2 party in an official capacity.

3 DIVISION VI

4 NOMINATION FILING DEADLINES

5 Sec. 31. Section 44.4, subsection 1, Code 2025, is amended to
6 read as follows:

7 1. ~~a.~~ Nominations made pursuant to this chapter and chapter
8 45 which are required to be filed in the office of the state
9 commissioner shall be filed in that office not more than
10 ninety-nine days nor later than 5:00 p.m. on the ~~eighty-first~~
11 ~~day before the~~ first Tuesday after the first Monday in June in
12 each even-numbered year. Nominations made for a special election
13 called pursuant to section 69.14 shall be filed by 5:00 p.m. not
14 less than twenty-five days before the date of an election called
15 upon at least forty days' notice and not less than fourteen days
16 before the date of an election called upon at least eighteen
17 days' notice. Nominations made for a special election called
18 pursuant to section 69.14A shall be filed by 5:00 p.m. not
19 less than twenty-five days before the date of the election.
20 Nominations made pursuant to this chapter and chapter 45 which
21 are required to be filed in the office of the commissioner
22 shall be filed in that office not more than ninety-two days nor
23 later than 5:00 p.m. on the ~~seventy-fourth day before the first~~
24 Tuesday after the first Monday in June in each even-numbered
25 year. Nominations made pursuant to this chapter or chapter 45
26 for city office shall be filed not more than seventy-two days
27 nor later than 5:00 p.m. on the forty-seventh day before the city
28 election with the county commissioner of elections responsible
29 under section 47.2 for conducting elections held for the city,
30 who shall process them as provided by law.

31 ~~b.~~ Notwithstanding paragraph "a", nominations for president
32 and vice president of the United States shall be filed in the
33 office of the state commissioner not more than ninety-nine days
34 nor later than 5:00 p.m. on the ~~eighty-first day before the date~~
35 ~~of the general election to be held in November.~~

1 Sec. 32. Section 44.4, subsection 2, paragraph a,
2 subparagraphs (1) and (2), Code 2025, are amended to read as
3 follows:

4 (1) Those filed with the state commissioner, not ~~less~~ later
5 than ~~seventy-four~~ seven days ~~before~~ after the first Tuesday after
6 the first Monday in June in each even-numbered year, ~~or for~~
7 ~~certificates of nomination filed under subsection 1, paragraph~~
8 ~~"b", not less than seventy-four days before the date of the~~
9 ~~election.~~

10 (2) Those filed with the commissioner, not ~~less~~ later than
11 ~~sixty-seven~~ seven days ~~before~~ after the first Tuesday after
12 the first Monday in June in each even-numbered year, except as
13 provided in subparagraph (3).

14 Sec. 33. Section 44.9, subsection 1, Code 2025, is amended to
15 read as follows:

16 1. In the office of the state commissioner, at least
17 eighty-one days before the date of the election, ~~or for~~
18 ~~withdrawals of nominations filed under section 44.4, subsection~~
19 ~~1, paragraph "b", at least seventy-six days before the date of~~
20 ~~election.~~

21 Sec. 34. Section 44.11, Code 2025, is amended to read as
22 follows:

23 **44.11 Vacancies filled.**

24 If a candidate named under this chapter withdraws or dies
25 before the deadline established in section 44.9, declines
26 a nomination, or if a certificate of nomination is held
27 insufficient or inoperative by the officer with whom it is
28 required to be filed, or in case any objection made to a
29 certificate of nomination, or to the eligibility of any candidate
30 named in the certificate, is sustained by the board appointed
31 to determine such questions, the vacancy or vacancies may be
32 filled by the convention, or caucus, or in such manner as such
33 convention or caucus has previously provided. The vacancy or
34 vacancies shall be filled not less than seventy-six days before
35 the election in the case of nominations required to be filed

1 with the state commissioner ~~or not less than seventy-one days~~
 2 ~~for nominations filed under section 44.4, subsection 1, paragraph~~
 3 ~~"b",~~ not less than sixty-nine days before the election in the
 4 case of nominations required to be filed with the commissioner,
 5 not less than forty-two days before the election in the case of
 6 nominations required to be filed in the office of the school
 7 board secretary, and not less than forty-two days before the
 8 election in the case of nominations required to be filed with the
 9 commissioner for city elections.

10 DIVISION VII

11 AFFIDAVITS OF CANDIDACY

12 Sec. 35. Section 43.18, Code 2025, is amended by adding the
 13 following new subsection:

14 NEW SUBSECTION. 10. A statement that the candidate is aware
 15 that by filing this affidavit, the candidate is ineligible to
 16 appear on the same ballot for the same office other than as a
 17 candidate for the political party indicated on the affidavit.

18 Sec. 36. Section 43.67, subsection 2, Code 2025, is amended
 19 by adding the following new paragraph:

20 NEW PARAGRAPH. j. A statement that the candidate is aware
 21 that by filing this affidavit, the candidate is ineligible to
 22 appear on the same ballot for the same office other than as a
 23 candidate for the political party indicated on the affidavit.

24 Sec. 37. Section 44.3, subsection 2, Code 2025, is amended by
 25 adding the following new paragraph:

26 NEW PARAGRAPH. j. A statement that the candidate is aware
 27 that by filing this affidavit, the candidate is ineligible to
 28 appear on the same ballot for the same office other than as a
 29 candidate for the nonparty political organization indicated on
 30 the affidavit.

31 Sec. 38. Section 45.3, Code 2025, is amended by adding the
 32 following new subsection:

33 NEW SUBSECTION. 10. A statement that the candidate is aware
 34 that by filing this affidavit, the candidate is ineligible to
 35 appear on the same ballot for the same office other than as a

1 candidate nominated by petition.

2 DIVISION VIII

3 VOTER REGISTRATION

4 Sec. 39. Section 47.7, subsection 2, Code 2025, is amended to
5 read as follows:

6 2. a. ~~On or before January 1, 2006, the~~ The state registrar
7 of voters shall implement in a uniform and nondiscriminatory
8 manner, a single, uniform, official, centralized, interactive
9 computerized statewide voter registration file defined,
10 maintained, and administered at the state level that contains
11 the name and registration information of every legally registered
12 voter in the state and assigns a unique identifier to each
13 legally registered voter in the state. The state voter
14 registration system shall be coordinated with other agency
15 databases within the state, including, but not limited to, state
16 department of transportation driver's license records, judicial
17 records of convicted felons and persons declared incompetent to
18 vote, and department of health and human services records of
19 deceased persons.

20 b. ~~On or after January 1, 2007, a~~ A county shall not
21 establish or maintain a voter registration system separate from
22 the state voter registration system. Each county shall provide
23 to the state registrar the names, voter registration information,
24 and voting history of each registered voter in the county in the
25 form required by the state registrar.

26 c. A state or local election official may obtain immediate
27 electronic access to the information contained in the
28 computerized voter registration file. All voter registration
29 information obtained by a local election official shall be
30 electronically entered into the computerized voter registration
31 file on an expedited basis at the time the information is
32 provided to the local election official. The state registrar
33 shall provide such support as may be required to enable local
34 election officials to electronically enter the information into
35 the computerized voter registration file on an expedited basis.

1 The list generated from the computerized file shall serve as the
2 official voter registration list for the conduct of all elections
3 for federal office in the state.

4 d. The state registrar shall prescribe by rule the procedures
5 for access to the state voter registration file, including all of
6 the following:

7 (1) Access protocols for adding, changing, or deleting
8 information from the state voter registration file.

9 (2) Training requirements for all state voter registration
10 file users.

11 (3) Technology safeguards, including county information
12 technology network requirements, necessary to access the state
13 voter registration file.

14 (4) Breach incident response requirements and protocols on
15 all matters related to elections.

16 e. The state registrar may rescind access to the statewide
17 voter registration file from a user who is not in compliance with
18 the prescribed rules.

19 f. ~~(1)~~ The state registrar shall, in the first quarter
20 of each calendar year, conduct a verification of all voters
21 in the statewide voter registration file, which shall include
22 cross-referencing the records in the statewide voter registration
23 file with similar records maintained by other states. The state
24 registrar of voters shall cancel the registration of a voter
25 found to be ineligible pursuant to section 48A.30. The state
26 registrar shall submit a report to the general assembly by April
27 30 of each year regarding the number of voter registrations
28 canceled pursuant to this paragraph. The state registrar shall
29 also publish this report on the internet site of the state
30 registrar.

31 ~~(2)~~ g. The state registrar may contract with a third-party
32 vendor, including state and federal government agencies and
33 private entities, to develop or provide a program to allow the
34 state registrar to verify the status of records in the statewide
35 voter registration file and identify ineligible voters on an

1 ongoing basis.

2 h. The state registrar may adopt rules pursuant to chapter
3 17A for the use of federal and other state agency sources
4 of information. The state registrar and county commissioners
5 of elections may use those sources of information for voter
6 registration file maintenance.

7 i. The department of transportation shall transmit to the
8 state registrar a list of each person seventeen years of age
9 or older in the state who has submitted documentation indicating
10 that the person is not a citizen of the United States.

11 Sec. 40. Section 48A.10A, subsections 1 and 2, Code 2025, are
12 amended to read as follows:

13 1. The state registrar shall compare lists of persons who
14 are registered to vote with the department of transportation's
15 driver's license and files, nonoperator's identification card
16 files, and noncitizen identification files, and shall, on an
17 initial basis, issue a voter identification card to each active,
18 registered voter whose name does not appear in the department
19 of transportation's files. The voter identification card shall
20 include the name of the registered voter, a signature line above
21 which the registered voter shall sign the voter identification
22 card, the registered voter's identification number assigned to
23 the voter pursuant to section 47.7, subsection 2, an additional
24 four-digit personal identification number assigned by the state
25 commissioner, and the times during which polling places will be
26 open on election days.

27 2. The commissioner shall issue voter identification cards
28 on an ongoing basis as prescribed by the state registrar.
29 The commissioner shall, as a part of the voter acknowledgment
30 process required under sections 48A.26 and 48A.26A, issue
31 a voter identification card to a registered voter under
32 this subsection at the time of registration or update to
33 registration if the registered voter's name does not appear
34 in the department of transportation's driver's license, ~~or~~
35 nonoperator's identification card, or noncitizen identification

1 files. A registered voter whose name appears in the
2 department of transportation's driver's license, ~~or~~ nonoperator's
3 identification card, or noncitizen identification files shall not
4 be issued a voter identification card pursuant to this section.

5 Sec. 41. Section 48A.25A, Code 2025, is amended by adding the
6 following new subsection:

7 NEW SUBSECTION. 2A. A voter registration record shall be
8 designated as unconfirmed status if the registrant self-reports
9 to be a noncitizen on the voter registration form and signs
10 the portion of the form affirming the person's United States
11 citizenship.

12 Sec. 42. Section 48A.30, subsection 1, Code 2025, is amended
13 by adding the following new paragraph:

14 NEW PARAGRAPH. h. The registered voter submits documentation
15 that indicates that the registered voter is not a citizen of the
16 United States or reports to a state or federal agency that the
17 registered voter is not a citizen of the United States.

18 Sec. 43. Section 48A.30, subsection 2, Code 2025, is amended
19 to read as follows:

20 2. When a registration is canceled pursuant to subsection 1,
21 paragraph "d", "e", ~~or~~ "g", or "h", the commissioner shall send a
22 notice of the cancellation to the registered voter.

23 Sec. 44. Section 48A.37, subsection 2, Code 2025, is amended
24 to read as follows:

25 2. Electronic records shall include a status code designating
26 whether the records are active, inactive, incomplete, pending,
27 unconfirmed, or canceled.

28 a. Inactive records are records of registered voters to whom
29 notices have been sent pursuant to section 48A.28, and who have
30 not returned the card or otherwise responded to the notice,
31 and those records have been designated inactive pursuant to
32 section 48A.29. Inactive records are also records of registered
33 voters to whom notices have been sent pursuant to section
34 48A.26A and who have not responded to the notice. Incomplete
35 records are records missing required information pursuant to

1 section 48A.11, subsection 8. Pending records are records of
 2 applicants whose applications have not been verified pursuant to
 3 section 48A.25A. Unconfirmed records are records of registered
 4 voters about whom the state registrar or county commissioner has
 5 received information from a reliable source indicating that the
 6 registered voter is not qualified. Canceled records are records
 7 that have been canceled pursuant to section 48A.30. All other
 8 records are active records.

9 b. An inactive record shall be made active when the
 10 registered voter requests an absentee ballot, votes at an
 11 election, registers again, or reports a change of name, address,
 12 telephone number, or political party or organization affiliation.
 13 An incomplete record shall be made active when a completed
 14 application is received from the applicant and verified pursuant
 15 to section 48A.25A. A pending record shall be made active upon
 16 verification or upon the voter providing identification pursuant
 17 to section 48A.8. An unconfirmed record shall be made active
 18 upon the registered voter providing evidence that the registered
 19 voter is qualified.

20 Sec. 45. Section 49.77, subsection 1, paragraph a, Code 2025,
 21 is amended to read as follows:

22 a. Any person desiring to vote shall sign a voter's
 23 declaration provided by the officials, in substantially the
 24 following form:

25 VOTER'S DECLARATION
 26 OF ELIGIBILITY
 27 I do solemnly swear or affirm that I am a resident of
 28 the precinct, ward or township, city of,
 29 county of, Iowa. I am a citizen of the United States.
 30 I am a registered voter. I was born on the day of
 31 (month) (year). I have not voted and will not
 32 vote in any other precinct in said election.
 33 I understand that any false statement in this declaration is a
 34 criminal offense punishable as provided by law.
 35

1 Signature of Voter

2

3 Address

4

5 Telephone (optional)

6 Approved:

7

8 Board Member

9 Sec. 46. Section 49.80, subsection 2, paragraph a, Code 2025,
10 is amended by adding the following new subparagraph:

11 NEW SUBPARAGRAPH. (5) The person's citizenship status.

12 Sec. 47. Section 50.22, subsection 2, Code 2025, is amended
13 to read as follows:

14 2. The decision to count or reject each ballot shall be
15 made upon the basis of the information given on the envelope
16 containing the provisional ballot, the evidence concerning
17 the challenge, the registration and the returned receipts of
18 registration. Ballots submitted to the board pursuant to section
19 49.78 or 49.81 that are not cured by the deadline provided in
20 section 49.81, subsection 6, shall be rejected.

21 DIVISION IX

22 ELECTION MISCONDUCT

23 Sec. 48. Section 39A.7, Code 2025, is amended to read as
24 follows:

25 **39A.7 Election misconduct — investigation.**

26 1. The attorney general county sheriff, or other law
27 enforcement agency with jurisdiction, shall investigate
28 allegations of election misconduct reported to the attorney
29 general. Election misconduct by an election official shall also
30 be investigated for prosecution under chapter 721.

31 2. Upon the completion of an investigation required by this
32 section, the attorney general county sheriff, or other law
33 enforcement agency with jurisdiction, shall submit the results of
34 the investigation, including the report from the law enforcement
35 agency, to the attorney general and the state commissioner, and

1 the attorney general shall explain whether the attorney general
2 will pursue charges. Any information that is requested by or
3 in the possession of the state commissioner pursuant to this
4 chapter remains a confidential record pursuant to section 22.7,
5 subsection 5.

unofficial