

## CHAPTER 130

## ELECTION OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

H. F. 14

AN ACT relating to the method of election of school directors.

*Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:*

1 SECTION 1. Section two hundred seventy-five point twelve  
2 (275.12), Code 1954, is hereby amended as follows:

3 1. By inserting at the beginning of such section the numeral "1."\*

4 2. By inserting at the end of such section the following:

5 "2. Such petition shall also state the method of election of the school  
6 directors of the proposed district. The method of election of the direc-  
7 tors shall be one of the following optional plans:

8 a. Election at large from the entire district by the electors of the  
9 entire district.

10 b. Division of the entire school district into designated geographical  
11 subdistricts, to be known as director districts, each of which director  
12 districts shall be represented on the school board by one director who  
13 shall be a resident of such director district but who shall be elected by  
14 the vote of the electors of the entire school district. The school district  
15 shall be divided into the same number of director districts as the num-  
16 ber of school directors the district is authorized by law. The bound-  
17 aries of such director districts and the area and population included  
18 within each district shall be such as justice, equity, and the interests  
19 of the people may require. In so far as may be practicable, the bound-  
20 aries of such districts shall follow established political or natural geo-  
21 graphic divisions.

22 c. Election of not more than one-half of the total number of school  
23 directors at large from the entire district and the remaining directors  
24 from and as residents of designated director districts into which the  
25 entire school district shall be divided. In such case, all directors shall  
26 be elected by the electors of the entire school district.

27 d. Division of the entire school district into designated geographical  
28 subdistricts, to be known as director districts, each of which director  
29 districts shall be represented on the school board by one director who  
30 shall be a resident of such director district and who shall be elected by  
31 the voters of said director district. Place of voting in such director  
32 districts shall be designated by the county board.

33 3. If the petition proposes the division of the school district into  
34 director districts, the boundaries of such proposed director districts  
35 shall be described in the petition.

36 4. The county board or boards of education in reviewing such peti-  
37 tion as provided in sections two hundred seventy-five point fifteen  
38 (275.15), two hundred seventy-five point sixteen (275.16), and two  
39 hundred seventy-five point seventeen (275.17) shall review the pro-  
40 posed method of election of school directors and shall have the duty  
41 and authority to change or amend such plan in any manner, including  
42 the changing of boundaries of director districts if proposed, or to spec-  
43 ify a different method of electing school directors on the basis of area,  
44 school population, or assessed valuation as may be required by law,

\*See chapter 129, §12.

45 justice, equity, and the interest of the people. In such action the  
46 county board or boards shall follow the same procedure as is required  
47 by sections two hundred seventy-five point fifteen (275.15), two hun-  
48 dred seventy-five point sixteen (275.16), and two hundred seventy-five  
49 point seventeen (275.17) for other action on the petition by the county  
50 board or boards."

1 SEC. 2. Section two hundred seventy-five point eighteen (275.18),  
2 Code 1954, is hereby amended by inserting after the word, "corpora-  
3 tion" in line three (3) of such section the words, "and the method of  
4 the election of the school directors of such proposed school corpora-  
5 tion".

1 SEC. 3. Any existing or hereafter created or enlarged school dis-  
2 trict may change its method of election of school directors to any  
3 method authorized by section two hundred seventy-five point twelve  
4 (275.12) by submission of a proposal, stating the proposed new  
5 method of election and describing the boundaries of the proposed direc-  
6 tor districts if any, by the school board of such district to the electors  
7 at any regular school election. The school board shall give notice of  
8 the submission of such proposal to the voters by one publication at  
9 least ten (10) days prior to such election of such proposal in a news-  
10 paper published within the school district, or if none is published  
11 therein, in a newspaper published in the county where the school dis-  
12 trict is located, and of general circulation in the territory described.  
13 Such proposal shall be adopted:

14 1. If, in a district where the existing method of election of school  
15 directors is by election at large, it is approved by a majority of the  
16 votes cast on the proposition;

17 2. If, in a district which is subdivided into director districts for the  
18 election of all or part of the school directors, it is approved by a  
19 majority of the votes cast in each director district on the proposition.

1 SEC. 4. If a petition for a change in the method of election of  
2 school directors, describing the boundaries of the proposed director  
3 districts, if any, signed by at least one-third ( $\frac{1}{3}$ ) of the voters resid-  
4 ing within the school district and accompanied by affidavit as required  
5 by section two hundred seventy-five point thirteen (275.13) be filed  
6 with the school board of a school district, not earlier than six (6)  
7 months and not later than two (2) months before a regular school  
8 election, the school board shall submit such proposition to the voters  
9 at such election.

1 SEC. 5. If change in the method of the election of school directors  
2 is approved at a regular school election by the voters of a school dis-  
3 trict, the school board shall, by notice in one publication in the same  
4 newspaper which the notice of election required by section three (3)  
5 of this Act was published, call a special election to be held on or before  
6 the tenth (10th) day of June next following, for the election of new  
7 school directors under the newly adopted method of election. The  
8 school directors elected at such election shall meet and organize on the  
9 first Monday in July following their election.

1 SEC. 6. In a school district, either newly organized or previously  
2 established, at the first election under a method of electing school direc-

3 tors whereby the district is divided into director districts, the two  
 4 directors elected with the fewest number of votes in their favor shall  
 5 serve the terms until the next regular election; the two directors  
 6 elected with the next fewest number of votes shall serve the terms  
 7 until the second next regular election, and the remaining director or  
 8 directors elected shall serve until the third next regular election.

1 SEC. 7. The last sentence of section two hundred seventy-five point  
 2 twenty (275.20), Code 1954, beginning on line nineteen (19) and end-  
 3 ing on line twenty-four (24) of such section is hereby repealed.

1 SEC. 8. Section two hundred seventy-seven point twenty-five  
 2 (277.25), Code 1954, is hereby amended as follows:

3 1. By striking the word "one" in line one (1) of subsection two (2)  
 4 and inserting in lieu thereof the word, "two (2)" and by striking the  
 5 word, "two" in line three (3) of such subsection and inserting in lieu  
 6 thereof the word, "one (1)".

7 2. By striking the word, "three" in line one (1) of subsection three  
 8 (3) and inserting in lieu thereof the word, "two (2)" and by striking  
 9 the word, "two" in line three (3) of such subsection and inserting in  
 10 lieu thereof the word "three (3)".

Approved April 10, 1957.

## CHAPTER 131

### COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICTS

#### H. F. 226

AN ACT relating to the number of directors to be elected in certain community school districts.

*Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:*

1 SECTION 1. Section two hundred seventy-five point twenty-five  
 2 (275.25), Code 1954, is hereby amended by inserting in line fifteen  
 3 (15) after the period following the word "qualified" the following:

4 "Provided, however, that in all community school districts which  
 5 include a city of fifteen thousand (15,000) or more population and  
 6 which became effective prior to July 4, 1955, and in all community  
 7 school districts containing a city which has attained a population of  
 8 fifteen thousand (15,000) or more as shown by the most recent de-  
 9 cennial federal census, the board of directors shall consist of seven  
 10 (7) members. Where it becomes necessary to increase the member-  
 11 ship of any such board under the provisions hereof, new directors  
 12 shall be elected at the next regular school election for such initial  
 13 terms as will conform to the staggered terms hereinabove provided  
 14 for directors in newly formed districts."

1 SEC. 2. This act being deemed of immediate importance shall be  
 2 in full force and effect from and after publication in the Marshall-  
 3 town Times-Republican, a newspaper published at Marshalltown,