

CHAPTER 1038
ELECTION PRECINCTS
S. F. 1111

AN ACT relating to election precincts.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section forty-nine point four (49.4), Code 1966, is
2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following:

3 "No election precinct shall have a total population in excess of one-
4 tenth of one percent of the total population of the state, as shown by
5 the most recent federal decennial census, except that a civil township
6 may constitute a single election precinct if its total population is not
7 in excess of twelve-hundredths of one percent of the total population
8 of the state and the board of supervisors deems the division of such
9 township into two precincts impractical. Where a civil township, or
10 the portion of a civil township outside the corporate limits of any or
11 all cities and towns located wholly or partially within the boundaries
12 of such township, is divided into two or more election precincts, the
13 populations of each such precinct shall be as nearly equal as possible
14 within the limitations of availability of suitable polling places and of
15 reliable data on the populations of various parts of such township.
16 The board of supervisors shall make any changes necessary to comply
17 with this section not later than March fifteenth of each year immedi-
18 ately following a year in which the federal decennial census is taken,
19 unless the general assembly by joint resolution establishes a later date
20 for such compliance due to unavailability of necessary census data.
21 Any or all of the publications required by section forty-nine point
22 eleven (49.11) of the Code may be made after March fifteenth if
23 necessary."

1 SEC. 2. Section forty-nine point five (49.5), Code 1966, is hereby
2 amended by adding thereto the following:

3 "Election precincts shall be of as nearly equal population as possible
4 within the limitations of reliable data on the populations of various
5 parts of such city. No election precinct shall have a total population
6 in excess of one-tenth of one percent of the total population of the
7 state, as shown by the most recent federal decennial census, except
8 that:

9 1. A city whose total population permits may be divided into not
10 more than four precincts of as nearly equal population as possible,
11 none of which shall have a total population in excess of twelve-hun-
12 dredths of one percent of the total population of the state.

13 2. No city with a total population less than twelve-hundredths of
14 one percent of the total population of the state need be divided into
15 more than one precinct if the council deems such division impractical.

16 The council shall make any changes necessary to comply with this
17 section not later than March fifteenth of each year immediately fol-
18 lowing a year in which the federal decennial census is taken, unless
19 the general assembly by joint resolution establishes a later date for
20 such compliance due to unavailability of necessary census data. Any
21 or all of the publications required by section forty-nine point eleven
22 (49.11) of the Code may be made after March fifteenth if necessary."

1 SEC. 3. Section forty-nine point six (49.6), Code 1966, is hereby
2 amended as follows:
3 1. By inserting in line two (2) after the word "any" the words
4 "town or".
5 2. By adding thereto the following:
6 "No precinct so created shall have a total population in excess of
7 one-tenth of one percent of the total state population, as shown by
8 the most recent federal decennial census, except that if the entire
9 town or city and township are to constitute a single election precinct,
10 the total population shall not exceed twelve-hundredths of one percent
11 of the total state population."

1 SEC. 4. Section forty-nine point ten (49.10), Code 1966, is hereby
2 amended by adding thereto the following new subsection:
3 "The city council of any city in which precinct lines have been
4 changed to comply with section forty-nine point five (49.5) of the
5 Code, as amended by this Act, may fix the polling place for any pre-
6 cinct outside the boundaries of the precinct if there is no building or
7 facility within the precinct suitable and available for use as a polling
8 place. In so doing, the council shall fix the polling place at the point
9 nearest the precinct which is suitable and available for use as a polling
10 place and is reasonably accessible to voters of the precinct. No single
11 room or area of any building or facility shall be fixed as the polling
12 place for more than one precinct unless there are separate entrances
13 thereto each clearly marked on the days on which elections are held as
14 the entrance to the polling place of a particular precinct, and suitable
15 arrangements are made within such room or area to prevent direct
16 access from the polling place of any precinct to the polling place of
17 any other precinct. When the council has fixed such a polling place
18 for any precinct it shall remain the polling place at all subsequent
19 primary, general and special elections until the boundaries of the pre-
20 cinct are changed or the council fixes a new polling place, except that
21 the polling place shall be changed to a point within the boundaries of
22 the precinct at any time not less than sixty days before the next suc-
23 ceeding primary, general or special election that a building or facility
24 suitable for such use becomes available within the precinct."

Approved May 5, 1970.