

**CHAPTER 112**  
CITY ELECTIONS —  
COUNCIL VACANCIES AND SATELLITE ABSENTEE VOTING  
S.F. 416

**AN ACT** relating to city elections by providing procedures for filling a city council vacancy by special election and by providing satellite absentee voting at certain city elections.

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

Section 1. Section 53.11, subsection 1, Code 2007, is amended to read as follows:

1. Satellite absentee voting stations may be established throughout the cities and county at the direction of the commissioner and shall be established upon receipt of a petition signed by not less than one hundred eligible electors requesting that a satellite absentee voting station be established at a location to be described on the petition. However, if a special election is scheduled in the county on a date that falls between the date of the regular city election and the date of the city runoff election, the commissioner is not required to establish a satellite absentee voting station for the city runoff election.

PARAGRAPH DIVIDED. A satellite absentee voting station established by petition must be open at least one day for a minimum of six hours. A satellite absentee voting station established at the direction of the commissioner or by petition may remain open until five p.m. on the day before the election.

Sec. 2. Section 53.11, subsection 2, paragraph b, Code 2007, is amended to read as follows:

b. For the regular city election or a city primary election, no later than five p.m. on the thirtieth day before the election.

Sec. 3. Section 53.11, subsection 2, Code 2007, is amended by adding the following new paragraph:

NEW PARAGRAPH. bb. For a city runoff election, no later than five p.m. on the twenty-first day before the election.

Sec. 4. Section 372.13, subsection 2, paragraph b, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 2007, is amended to read as follows:

By a special election held to fill the office for the remaining balance of the unexpired term. If the council opts for a special election or a valid petition is filed under paragraph "a", the special election may be held concurrently with any pending election as provided by section 69.12 if by so doing the vacancy will be filled not more than ninety days after it occurs. Otherwise, a special election to fill the office shall be called by the council at the earliest practicable date. The council shall give the county commissioner at least thirty-two days' written notice of the date chosen for the special election. The council of a city where a primary election may be required shall give the county commissioner at least sixty days' written notice of the date chosen for the special election. A special election held under this subsection is subject to sections 376.4 through 376.11, but the dates for actions in relation to the special election, ~~including dates for filing of nomination petitions,~~ shall be calculated with regard to the date for which the special election is called. However, a nomination petition must be filed not less than twenty-five days before the date of the special election and, where a primary election may be required, a nomination petition must be filed not less than fifty-two days before the date of the special election.

Approved April 26, 2007