

CHAPTER 1146

ELECTIONS AND VOTING — MISCELLANEOUS CHANGES

H.F. 2466

AN ACT relating to the administration of elections.

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

Section 1. [Section 47.4](#), Code 2024, is amended to read as follows:

47.4 Election filing deadlines.

If the deadline for a filing pertaining to an election falls on a day that the state or county commissioner's office is closed for business, the deadline shall be extended to the next day that the office of state commissioner or county commissioner is open for business to receive the filing. ~~This section does not apply to the deadline for voter registration under [section 48A.9, subsection 2](#).~~

Sec. 2. [Section 48A.9, subsection 2](#), Code 2024, is amended to read as follows:

2. The commissioner's office shall be open from 8:00 a.m. until at least 5:00 p.m. on the day registration closes before each regularly scheduled election. ~~However, if the last day to register to vote for a regularly scheduled election falls on the day after Thanksgiving, the deadline shall be the following Monday.~~

Sec. 3. [Section 49.124, subsection 1](#), Code 2024, is amended to read as follows:

1. The commissioner shall conduct, not later than the day before each ~~primary and general~~ election, a training course for all election personnel, ~~and the commissioner may do so before any other election the commissioner administers.~~ The personnel shall include all precinct election officials and any other persons who will be employed in or around the polling places on election day. ~~At least two precinct election officials who will serve on each precinct election board at the forthcoming election shall attend the training course. If the entire board does not attend, those members who do attend shall so far as possible be persons who have not previously attended a similar training course. The state commissioner shall adopt rules pursuant to [chapter 17A](#) to implement instruction required under [this subsection](#).~~

Sec. 4. [Section 49.128, subsection 1](#), unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 2024, is amended to read as follows:

No later than twenty days following a ~~general~~ an election, the commissioner shall place on file in the commissioner's office a certification that the county met the following requirements at the ~~general~~ election:

Sec. 5. [Section 49.128, subsection 1](#), Code 2024, is amended by adding the following new paragraph:

NEW PARAGRAPH. *f.* The state commissioner may adopt rules pursuant to [chapter 17A](#) to require that the commissioner provide and certify additional information.

Sec. 6. [Section 49.128, subsection 2](#), Code 2024, is amended to read as follows:

2. ~~a.~~ If the county is required to conduct an audit under [section 50.51](#), the commissioner shall include a copy of the results with the certification required under [this section](#).

~~b.~~ If a county is not required to conduct an audit under [section 50.51](#), the commissioner shall include a copy of the certification required under [this section](#) along with the election canvass summary report required under [section 50.30A](#).

Sec. 7. NEW SECTION. **49.129 Pre-election submission requirements.**

1. No later than ten days before the election, the commissioner shall notify the state commissioner of all of the following:

a. The date, time, and location the testing of voting equipment required pursuant to [section 52.35](#) is to be performed.

b. The date the election notice will be published pursuant to [section 49.53](#) and where it will appear.

c. The date the election personnel training course required pursuant to [section 49.124](#) is to be conducted.

2. The state commissioner may adopt rules pursuant to [chapter 17A](#) to require that the commissioner provide and certify additional information.

Sec. 8. [Section 50.15A](#), Code 2024, is amended to read as follows:

50.15A Unofficial results of voting — ~~general election only~~.

1. In order to provide the public with an early source of election results before the official canvass of votes, the state commissioner of elections, in cooperation with the commissioners of elections, shall conduct an unofficial canvass of election results following the closing of the polls on the day of a regular city election, regular school election, primary election, or general election, or any other election at the discretion of the state commissioner. The unofficial canvass shall report election results for national offices, statewide offices, the office of state representative, the office of state senator, and other offices or public measures at the discretion of the state commissioner of elections. The unofficial canvass shall also report the total number of ballots cast at the general reported election.

2. *a.* After the polls close on election day, the commissioner of elections shall periodically provide election results to the state commissioner of elections as the precincts in the county report election results to the commissioner pursuant to [section 50.11](#). If the commissioner determines that all precincts will not report election results before the office is closed, the commissioner shall report the most complete results available prior to leaving the office at the time the office is closed as provided in [section 50.11](#). The commissioner shall specify the number of precincts included in the report to the state commissioner of elections and provide an explanation in writing as to why all precincts will not be reported.

b. The state commissioner of elections shall tabulate unofficial election results as the results are received from the commissioners of elections and shall periodically make the reports of the results available to the public.

3. Before the day of the general reported election, the state commissioner of elections shall provide a form and instructions for reporting unofficial election results pursuant to [this section](#).

4. The state commissioner shall set a date and time by which a commissioner must complete testing of the system used for the unofficial canvass before the reported election.

Sec. 9. [Section 50.48, subsection 5](#), Code 2024, is amended to read as follows:

5. *a.* (1) At the conclusion of a recount, the recount board shall make and file with the commissioner a written report of its findings, signed by a majority of the recount board.

(2) The commissioner or commissioner's designee may assist in compiling the written report. The written report shall include a full tally and accounting of ballots reviewed by the recount board and shall be reported as required by [sections 50.24](#) and [53.20](#). The written report must allow the commissioner to correct the canvass of voters in the manner required by law, if applicable.

b. If the recount board's report is that the abstracts prepared pursuant to the county board's canvass were incorrect as to the number of votes cast for the candidates for the office or nomination in question, in that county or district, the commissioner shall at once so notify the county board. The county board shall reconvene within three days after being so notified, but no later than noon on the twenty-seventh day following the election in question for a recount of the offices of president and vice president, and shall correct its previous proceedings.

Sec. 10. [Section 53.17, subsection 4](#), unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 2024, is amended to read as follows:

When a person designated by the voter pursuant to [section 53.33](#) retrieves a completed absentee ballot from the voter, the designee shall, ~~upon request of the voter,~~ fill out a receipt to be retained by the voter. The state commissioner shall prescribe a form for receipts required by [this subsection](#). The receipt shall include all of the following:

Sec. 11. [Section 53.17, subsection 4](#), paragraph d, Code 2024, is amended by striking the paragraph.

Sec. 12. [Section 53.17, subsection 4](#), paragraph f, Code 2024, is amended to read as follows:

f. A statement that the completed absentee ballot will be delivered to the commissioner's office within seventy-two hours of retrieving it from the voter or before the closing of the polls on election day, whichever is earlier, ~~or that the completed absentee ballot will be mailed to the commissioner within seventy-two hours of retrieving it from the voter.~~

Sec. 13. [Section 53.20, subsection 2](#), paragraph b, Code 2024, is amended to read as follows:

b. For the primary election, general election, and for any election in which the commissioner determines in advance of the election to report the results of the special precinct by the resident precincts of the voters who cast absentee and provisional ballots, the commissioner shall prepare a separate absentee ballot style for each precinct in the county and shall program the voting system to produce reports by the resident precincts of the voters.

Sec. 14. [Section 54.7, subsection 1](#), Code 2024, is amended to read as follows:

1. The presidential electors and alternate electors shall meet in the capitol, at the seat of government, on the first ~~Monday~~ Tuesday after the second Wednesday in December next following their election.

Sec. 15. [Section 277.4, subsection 4](#), Code 2024, is amended to read as follows:

4. Any person on whose behalf nomination petitions have been filed under [this section](#) may withdraw as a candidate by filing a signed statement to that effect with the secretary consistent with [section 44.9, subsection 5](#).

Approved May 8, 2024