ELECTION LAWS
OF
IOWA

JANUARY 1995 SUPPLEMENT

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INSTRUCTIONS
FOR
Updating Election Laws of Iowa

Obsolete pages of Election Laws of Iowa are listed in the column headed **"Remove Old Pages."** New and replacement pages in this Supplement are listed in the column headed **"Insert New Pages."** It is important to follow instructions in both columns.

Remove Old Pages	Insert New Pages
iii	iii
15,16	15,16
85,86	85,86
95–98	95–98
115–118	115–118
135–160	135–160
166a,166b	166a,166b
173,174	173,174
178a,178b	178a,178b
185–190	185–190
197,198	197,198
209–210d	209–210d
245–256	245–256
259,260	259,260
260e,260f	260e,260f
325d–328	325d–328
339,340	339,340
357,358	357,358
363–374	363–374
381–390	381–390
397,398	397,398
417,418	417,418
425,426	425,426
429,430	429,430
437–442b	437–442b
447,448	447,448
455–458	455–458
526a,526b	526a,526b
533	533

January 1995 Supplement

Remove Old Pages	Insert New Pages
I-7 to I-10	I-7 to I-10
I-23 to I-30	I-23 to I-30

Sections Affected by 1994 Iowa Acts
in
ELECTION LAWS OF IOWA

The January 1995 Election Laws Supplement contains changes in the 1994 Iowa Acts which are effective on or after January 1, 1995.

Code Section	Action	Iowa Acts (Chapter, Section)
39.3	AMENDED	1169,§43,65
43.5	AMENDED	1169,§44
43.41	AMENDED	1169,§64
43.42	AMENDED	1169,§64
43.43	AMENDED	1169,§64
43.120	AMENDED	1169,§64
47.1	AMENDED	1169,§45
47.2	AMENDED	1169,§46
47.4	REPEALED	1169,§66
47.7	AMENDED	1169,§47
47.8	AMENDED	1169,§48
48.1–48.12	REPEALED	1169,§66,see ch 48A
48.15	REPEALED	1169,§66,see ch 48A
48.16	REPEALED	1169,§67,see ch 48A
48.17	REPEALED	1169,§66,see ch 48A
48.20–48.23	REPEALED	1169,§66,see ch 48A
48.29	REPEALED	1169,§66,see ch 48A
48.30	REPEALED	1169,§66,see ch 48A
48.31	REPEALED	1169,§67,see ch 48A
48.32	REPEALED	1169,§66,see ch 48A
ch 48A	NEW	1169,§1–42
49.11	AMENDED	1169,§64
49.27	AMENDED	1169,§64
49.28	AMENDED	1169,§49
49.30	AMENDED	1169,§64
49.43	AMENDED	1169,§64
49.74	AMENDED	1169,§64
49.77	AMENDED	1169,§50
49.80	AMENDED	1169,§64
49.81	AMENDED	1169,§51,64
49.105	AMENDED	1169,§64

Code Section	Action	Iowa Acts (Chapter, Section)
50.7	AMENDED	1169,§64
50.8	AMENDED	1169,§64
50.19	AMENDED	1169,§52
50.22	AMENDED	1169,§53
53.1	AMENDED	1169,§65
53.2	AMENDED	1169,§54
53.7	AMENDED	1169,§64
53.8	AMENDED	1169,§64
53.11	AMENDED	1169,§65
53.15	AMENDED	1169,§64
53.17	AMENDED	1169,§64
53.19	AMENDED	1169,§64
53.22	AMENDED	1169,§65
53.25	AMENDED	1169,§64
53.38	AMENDED	1169,§55
53.39	AMENDED	1169,§64
53.53	AMENDED	1169,§56
176A.5	AMENDED	1169,§64
176A.8	AMENDED	1169,§64
275.13	AMENDED	1169,§64
278.1	AMENDED	1029,§16,17
280.9A	AMENDED	1169,§57
291.13	REPEALED	1029,§32
298.18	AMENDED	1029,§28
300.2	AMENDED	1029,§29
303.25	AMENDED	1169,§64
303.49	AMENDED	1169,§64
331.201	AMENDED	1169,§64
331.424	AMENDED	1169,§59
331.505	AMENDED	1169,§60
331.751	AMENDED	1169,§64
357.12	AMENDED	1169,§64
357C.7	AMENDED	1169,§64
357D.8	AMENDED	1169,§64
357E.8	AMENDED	1169,§64
357F.8	AMENDED	1169,§64
358.7	AMENDED	1169,§64
368.1	AMENDED	1169,§61
368.14	AMENDED	1169,§64

January 1995 Supplement

Code Section	Action	Iowa Acts (Chapter, Section)
602.8102	AMENDED	1169,§62
914.6	NEW	93 Code as amended by 1169, §63

EDITOR'S NOTE

This publication contains election laws as they appear in the Iowa Code 1995.

The Election Law compilation is updated annually by the issuance of replacement pages containing amendments and new enactments.

PREFATORY STATEMENT

"The Iowa Code, Code Supplement, and session laws published under authority of the state are the only authoritative publications of the statutes of this state. No other publications of the statutes of the state shall be cited in the courts or in the reports or rules of the courts." [Iowa Code section 2B.17(3)]

6. *"Eligible elector"* means a person who possesses all of the qualifications necessary to entitle the person to be registered to vote, whether or not the person is in fact so registered.

7. *"General election"* means the biennial election for national or state officers, members of Congress and of the general assembly, county and township officers, and for the choice of other officers or the decision of questions as provided by law.

8. *"Infamous crime"* means a felony as defined in section 701.7, or an offense classified as a felony under federal law.

9. *"Primary election"* means that election by the members of various political parties for the purpose of placing in nomination candidates for public office held as required by chapter 43.

10. *"Public measure"* means any question authorized or required by law to be submitted to the voters at an election.

11. *"Registered voter"* means a person who is registered to vote pursuant to chapter 48A.

12. *"Registrar"* means the state registrar of voters designated by section 47.7.

13. *"Registration commission"* means the state voter registration commission established by section 47.8.

14. *"School election"* means that election held pursuant to section 277.1.

15. *"Special election"* means any other election held for any purpose authorized or required by law.

16. *"State commissioner"* means the state commissioner of elections as defined in section 47.1.

[C97, §1089; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §720; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §49.2; C75, 77, 79, 81, §39.3]

93 Acts, ch 143, §3; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §43, 65; 94 Acts, ch 1180, §1

39.4 Proclamation concerning revision of Constitution.

In the years in which the Constitution requires, or at other times when the general assembly by law provides for, a vote on the question of calling a convention and revising the Constitution, the governor shall at least sixty days before the general election issue a proclamation directing that at the general election there be proposed to the people the following question:

Shall there be a convention to revise the Constitution, and propose amendment or amendments to same?

[C97, §1061; SS15, §1061; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §507; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §39.4]

Constitutional requirement, (codified) Art. X, §3

39.5 Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.

39.6 Notice of special election.

A proclamation shall be issued before any election ordered by the governor, designating the office to be filled or the public question to be submitted at the election and designating the time at which such election shall be held; and the commissioner of each county in which such election is to be held shall give notice thereof, as provided in section 49.53.

[R60, §462, 464; C73, §577, 579; C97, §1061, 1063; SS15, §1061; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §506, 509; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §39.3, 39.6; C75, 77, 79, 81, §39.6]

Additional provision, §49A.7

39.7 Time of choosing officer.

At the general election next preceding the expiration of the term of any officer, a successor shall be elected.

[R60, §461; C73, §575; C97, §1059; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §510; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §39.7]

39.8 Term of office.

The term of office of all officers chosen at a general election for a full term shall commence on the first day of January following the election which is not a Sunday or legal holiday, except when otherwise provided by the Constitution or by statute; that of an officer chosen to fill a vacancy shall commence as soon as the officer has qualified therefor.

[R60, §462; C73, §576; C97, §1060; S13, §1060; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §511; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §39.8]

Governor and lieutenant governor, Constitution (codified), Art. IV, §15
Judges of supreme and district courts, Constitution (codified), Art. V, §17

39.9 State officers — term.

The governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor of state, treasurer of state, secretary of agriculture, and attorney general shall be elected for a term of four years at the general election held in the year 1974 and every four years thereafter.

[C51, §239; R60, §465, 466; C73, §580, 581; C97, §1064, 1065; S13, §1065; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §512; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §39.9]

39.10 United States senators.

Senators in the Congress of the United States shall be elected in the same manner in which state officers are elected.

[R60, §674; C73, §26; C97, §30; S13, §1087-c; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §513; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §39.10]

Term of office, Constitution (U. S.), Amendment 17
Vacancy in U. S. senate, see §69.13

the tabulation of the results of the balloting.

Within fourteen days after the date of the caucus the county central committee shall certify to the county commissioner the names of those elected as party committee members and delegates to the county convention.

The central committee of each political party shall notify the delegates and committee members so elected and certified of their election and of the time and place of holding the county convention. Such conventions shall be held either preceding or following the primary election but no later than ten days following the primary election and shall be held on the same day throughout the state.

[S13, §1087-a1; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §530; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.4]

83 Acts, ch 138, §1; 88 Acts, ch 1001, §1; 89 Acts, ch 136, §2

Failure to report, criminal penalty, §43.119

43.5 Applicable statutes.

The provisions of chapters 39, 47, 48A, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 56, 57, 58, 59, 61, 62 and 722 shall apply, so far as applicable, to all primary elections, except as hereinafter provided.

[S13, §1087-a1; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §531; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.5]

94 Acts, ch 1169, §44

Criminal offenses, §43.119, 43.120

43.6 Nomination of U. S. senators, state and county officers.

Candidates for the office of senator in the Congress of the United States, the offices listed in section 39.9, county supervisor and the offices listed in section 39.17 shall be nominated in the year preceding the expiration of the term of office of the incumbent.

1. When a vacancy occurs in the office of senator in the Congress of the United States, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor of state, treasurer of state, secretary of agriculture, or attorney general and section 69.13 requires that the vacancy be filled for the balance of the unexpired term at a general election, candidates for the office shall be nominated in the preceding primary election if the vacancy occurs eighty-nine or more days before the date of that primary election. If the vacancy occurs less than one hundred four days before the date of that primary election, the state commissioner shall accept nomination papers for that office only until five o'clock p.m. on the seventy-fourth day before the primary election, the provisions of section 43.11 notwithstanding. If the vacancy occurs later than eighty-nine days before the date of that primary election, but not less than eighty-nine days before the date of the general election, the nominations shall be made in the manner prescribed by this chapter for filling vacancies in nominations for offices to be voted for at the general election.

2. When a vacancy occurs in the office of county supervisor or any of the offices listed in section 39.17 and more than seventy days remain in the term of office following the next general election, the office shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term at that general election unless the vacancy has been filled by a special election called more than seventy-three days before the primary election. If an appointment to fill the vacancy in office is made eighty-eight or more days before the primary election and a petition requesting a special election has not been received within fourteen days after the appointment is made, candidates for the office shall be nominated at the primary election.

[R60, §674; C73, §26; C97, §30; S13, §1087-c; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §532; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.6]

89 Acts, ch 136, §3; 94 Acts, ch 1180, §2

Vacancies filled by governor, §69.8(1, 2)

43.7 Time of holding.

The primary election by all political parties shall be held at the usual voting places of the several precincts on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June in each even-numbered year.

[S13, §1087-a4; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §533; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.7]

43.8 State commissioner to furnish blanks.

The state commissioner shall, at state expense, furnish blank nomination papers, in the form provided in this chapter, to any eligible elector who desires to petition for the nomination of any candidate, or to any person who intends to be a candidate, for any office for which nomination papers are required to be filed in the state commissioner's office.

[S13, §1087-a11; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §534; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.8; 81 Acts, ch 34, §1]

43.9 Commissioner to furnish blanks.

The commissioner shall, at county expense, perform the duty specified in section 43.8, as to all offices for which nomination papers are required to be filed in the commissioner's office.

[S13, §1087-a11; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §535; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.9]

43.10 Blanks furnished by others.

Blank nomination papers which are in form substantially as provided by this chapter may be used even though not furnished by the state commissioner or commissioner.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §536; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.10]

43.27 Printing of ballots.

The ballots of each political party shall be printed in black ink, on separate sheets of paper, uniform in color, quality, texture, and size, with the name of the political party printed at the head of said ballots, which ballots shall be prepared by the commissioner in the same manner as for the general election, except as in this chapter provided.

[S13, §1087-a13; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §554; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.27]

43.28 Names of candidates — arrangement.

The names of all candidates for offices shall be arranged and printed upon the primary election ballots under the direction of the commissioner. If there are more candidates for nomination by a political party to an office than the number of persons to be elected to that office at the general election, the names of the candidates of that party for that nomination shall be rotated on the primary election ballot by the commissioner in the manner prescribed by section 49.31.

[S13, §1087-a13; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §556, 557; C46, 50, §43.28, 43.29; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.28]

43.29 Form of name on ballot.

The name of a candidate printed on the ballot shall not include parentheses, quotation marks, or any personal or professional title.

89 Acts, ch 136, §12

43.30 Sample ballots.

The commissioner shall take from the official printed ballots of each precinct a suitable number of ballots of each political party, and shall write or stamp, in red ink, near the top of each ballot, the words "sample ballot" and shall sign or stamp the commissioner's official signature thereunder. Said ballots shall be delivered to the precinct election officials, but shall not be voted, received, or counted. Said precinct election officials shall, before the opening of the polls, cause said sample ballots to be posted in and about the polling places.

The commissioner may make sample ballots available to the public. The sample ballots shall be stamped with the words "sample ballot" and a facsimile of the commissioner's signature. A reasonable fee may be charged for printing costs if a person requests multiple copies of sample ballots.

[S13, §1087-a15; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §558; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.30]

89 Acts, ch 136, §13

43.31 to 43.35 Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.

43.36 Australian ballot.

The Australian ballot system as now used in this state, except as herein modified, shall be used at said primary election. The endorsement of the precinct election officials and the facsimile of the commissioner's signature shall appear upon the ballots as provided for general elections.

[S13, §1087-a6; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §564; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.36]

Australian ballot system, ch 49
Endorsement by precinct election officials, §49.82
Signature of commissioner, §49.57

43.37 Number of votes permitted per office.

The elector shall be permitted to vote for no more candidates for any office than there are persons to be elected to the office. If an elector votes for more persons for any office than the number permitted, the elector's ballot shall not be counted for that office.

88 Acts, ch 1119, §6

43.38 Voter confined to party ticket.

The elector shall be allowed to vote for candidates for nomination on the ballot of the party with which the elector is registered as affiliated, and shall receive no other ballot. The voter shall return the ballot, folded, to one of the precinct election officials who shall deposit it in the ballot box.

[S13, §1087-a6; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §566; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.38]

43.39 Ballot for another party's candidate.

If any primary elector write upon the elector's ticket the name of any person who is a candidate for the same office upon some other party ticket than that upon which the candidate's name shall be so written, such ballot shall be so counted for such person only as a candidate of the party upon whose ballot the candidate's name is written, and shall in no case be counted for such person as a candidate upon any other ticket.

[S13, §1087-a6; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §567; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.39]

43.40 Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.

43.41 Change or declaration of party affiliation before primary.

Any registered voter who desires to change or declare a political party affiliation may, before the close of registration for the primary election, file a written declaration stating the change of party affiliation with the county commissioner of registration who shall enter a notation of such change on the registration records.

[S13, §1087-a8; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §569; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.41]

94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

43.42 Change or declaration of party affiliation at polls.

Any registered voter may change or declare a party affiliation at the polls on election day and shall be entitled to vote at any primary election. Each voter doing so shall indicate the voter's change or declaration of party affiliation on the voter's declaration of eligibility affidavit.

Each change or declaration of a registered voter's party affiliation so received shall be reported by the precinct election officials to the county commissioner of registration who shall enter a notation of the change on the registration records.

[S13, §1087-a8, -a9; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §570, 572; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §43.42; C75, §43.42, 43.44; C77, 79, 81, §43.42]

91 Acts, ch 129, §4; 92 Acts, ch 1163, §12; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

43.43 Voter's declaration of eligibility.

Each person voting at a primary election shall sign a declaration of eligibility which shall be in substantially the following form:

I do solemnly swear or affirm that I am a resident of the ..... precinct, ... ward or township, city of ....., county of ....., Iowa.

I am a registered voter. I have not voted and will not vote in any other precinct in this election.

I am affiliated with the ..... party. If my current voter registration record indicates another party affiliation or no party affiliation, I swear or affirm that I have in good faith changed my previously declared party affiliation, or declared my party affiliation, and now desire to be a member of the party indicated above.

.....
Signature of voter

.....
Address

(.....).....
Telephone

Approved:

....
Election board member Date

91 Acts, ch 129, §5; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

43.44 Repealed by 75 Acts, ch 81, §154.

43.45 Canvass of votes.

Upon the closing of the polls the precinct election officials shall immediately publicly canvass the vote in the following manner:

1. Place the ballots of the several political parties in separate piles.
2. Separately count the ballots of each party, and make the correct entries thereof on the tally sheets.
3. Certify to the number of votes cast upon the ticket of each political party for each candidate for each office.

to be filled by the voters of the entire city and twenty-five for an office to be filled by the voters of a subdivision of the city.

A candidate for precinct committee member may also file as a candidate for one additional office, any statute to the contrary notwithstanding.

Objections to nomination petitions and certificates of nominations shall be filed and decided as provided in section 43.24.

[S13, §1087-a34; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §642; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.115]

84 Acts, ch 1291, §2; 88 Acts, ch 1119, §7; 90 Acts, ch 1238, §6

43.116 Ballot vacancies in special charter city elections.

1. A vacancy on the ballot for an election at which city officers are to be chosen, and for which candidates have been nominated under this chapter, exists when any political party lacks a candidate for an office to be filled at that election because:

a. No person filed at the time required by section 43.115 as a candidate for the party's nomination for that office in the city primary election held under section 43.112, or all persons who did so subsequently withdrew as candidates, were found to lack the requisite requirements for the office or died before the date of the city primary election, and no candidate received a number of write-in votes sufficient for nomination under section 43.53; or

b. The person nominated in the city primary election as the party's candidate for that office withdrew by giving written notice to that effect to the city clerk not later than five o'clock p.m. on the day of the canvass of that city primary election.

2. A ballot vacancy as defined by this section may be filled by the city central committee of the party on whose ticket the vacancy exists or, in the case of an officer elected by the voters of a district within the city, by those members of the committee who represent the precincts lying within that district. The name of a candidate so designated to fill such a ballot vacancy shall be submitted in writing to the city clerk not later than five o'clock p.m. on the seventh day following the city primary election.

[C77, 79, 81, §43.116]

43.117 Plurality vote nominates and elects.

A plurality shall nominate the party candidate for all offices filled by elections authorized by section 43.112, and a plurality shall elect the precinct committee members.

[S13, §1087-a34; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §644; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.117]

43.118 Expense.

The entire expense of conducting said municipal primary election and preparation of election registers shall be audited by the city council and paid by the city.

[S13, §1087-a34; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §645; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.118]

43.119 Criminal misconduct.

Any party committee member or any primary election officer or public officer upon whom a duty is imposed by this chapter or by chapters herein made applicable, who shall willfully neglect to perform any such duty, or who shall willfully perform it in such a way as to hinder the objects thereof, or shall disclose to anyone, except as may be ordered by any court of justice, the manner in which a ballot may have been voted, shall be guilty of a serious misdemeanor.

Any person who is designated pursuant to section 43.4 to report the results of a precinct caucus as it relates to the selection and reporting of delegates selected as part of the presidential nominating process or who is designated pursuant to section 43.4 to tabulate and report the number of persons attending the caucus favoring each presidential candidate who willfully fails to perform those duties, willfully falsifies the information, or willfully omits information required to be reported under section 43.4 commits a simple misdemeanor.

[S13, §1087-a31; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §646; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.119]

88 Acts, ch 1001, §2

Applicable chapters, §43.5

43.120 Bribery — illegal voting.

Whoever commits any of the following acts shall be guilty of a serious misdemeanor, to wit:

1. Offering or giving a bribe, either in money or other consideration, to any elector for the purpose of influencing the elector's vote at a primary election.
2. Receiving and accepting such bribe by an elector entitled to vote at any primary election.
3. Making false answers to any of the provisions of this chapter relative to the person's qualifications and party affiliations.
4. Willfully voting or offering to vote at a primary election by a person who has not met the qualifications to vote.
5. Willfully voting or offering to vote at a primary election by a person who knows the person is not a registered voter of the precinct where the person votes or offers to vote.
6. Violating any provision of this chapter, or any provision of law made applicable to this chapter.
7. Knowingly procuring, aiding, or abetting any violation specified in this section.

[S13, §1087-a33; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §647; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.120]

94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

Applicable chapters, §43.5

43.121 Nominations by petition or nonparty organizations.
This chapter shall not be construed to prohibit nomination of candidates for office by petition, or by nonparty organizations, as provided in chapters 44 and 45, but no person so nominated shall be permitted to use the name, or any part thereof, of any political party authorized or entitled under this chapter to nominate a ticket by primary vote, or that has nominated a ticket by primary vote under this chapter.
[S13, §1087-a29; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §648; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §43.121]

43.122 Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.

43.123 Nomination of lieutenant governor.
Notwithstanding this chapter and any other statute relating to the nomination of a person for the office of lieutenant governor, the nomination of a person for the office of lieutenant governor for the general election in the year 1990 and each four years thereafter shall be held at the state convention of the political party. The nomination of a person for the office of lieutenant governor by a nonparty political organization shall be the procedure specified in chapter 44.
88 Acts, ch 1121, §1; 89 Acts, ch 83, §15

CHAPTER 44

NOMINATIONS BY NONPARTY POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS

See also definitions in §39.3

44.1 Political nonparty organizations.
44.2 Nominations certified.
44.3 Certificate.
44.4 Nominations and objections — time and place of filing.
44.5 Notice of objections.
44.6 Hearing before state commissioner.
44.7 Hearing before commissioner.
44.8 Hearing before mayor.
44.9 Withdrawals.
44.10 Effect of withdrawal.
44.11 Vacancies filled.
44.12 Insufficient time for convention.
44.13 Certificates in matter of vacancies.
44.14 Filing of certificates.
44.15 Presumption of validity.
44.16 Return of papers — additions not allowed.

44.1 Political nonparty organizations.

Any convention or caucus of eligible electors representing a political organization which is not a political party as defined by law, may, for the state, or for any division or municipality thereof, or for any county, or for any subdivision thereof, for which such convention or caucus is held, make one nomination of a candidate for each office to be filled therein at the general election. However, in order to qualify for any nomination made for a state-wide elective office by such a political organization there shall be in attendance at the convention or caucus where the nomination is made a minimum of two hundred fifty eligible electors including at least one eligible elector from each of twenty-five counties. In order to qualify for any nomination to the office of United States representative there shall be in attendance at the convention or caucus where the nomination is made a minimum of fifty eligible electors who are residents of the congressional district including at least one eligible elector from each of at least one-half of the counties of the congressional district. In order to qualify for any nomination to an office to be filled by the voters of a county or of a city there shall be in attendance at the convention or caucus where the nomination is made a minimum of ten eligible electors who are residents of the county or city, as the case may be, including at least one eligible elector from at least one-half of the voting precincts in that county or city. In order to qualify for any nomination made for the general assembly there shall be in attendance at the convention or caucus where the nomination is made a minimum of ten eligible electors who are residents of the representative district or twenty eligible electors who are residents of the senatorial district, as the case may be, with at least one eligible elector from one-half of the voting precincts in the district in each case. The names of all delegates in attendance at such convention or caucus and such fact shall be certified to the state commissioner together with the other certification requirements of this chapter.

[C97, §1098; C24, §649; C27, 31, 35, §655-a1; C39, §655.01; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §44.1]

Political party defined, §43.2

44.2 Nominations certified.

Nominations made under section 44.1 shall be certified by the chairperson and secretary of the convention or caucus, who shall enter their place of residence opposite their signatures, and attach to said certificate their affidavit to the effect that the certificate is true.

[C97, §1099; C24, §650; C27, 31, 35, §655-a2; C39, §655.02; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §44.2]

STATE OF IOWA
JUDICIAL BALLOT
(Date)

VOTE ON ALL NAMES BY PLACING AN X IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX AFTER EACH NAME.

SUPREME COURT

Shall the following judges of the Supreme Court be retained in office?

CANDIDATE'S NAME	YES ☐	NO ☐
CANDIDATE'S NAME	YES ☐	NO ☐

COURT OF APPEALS

Shall the following judges of the Court of Appeals be retained in office?

CANDIDATE'S NAME	YES ☐	NO ☐
CANDIDATE'S NAME	YES ☐	NO ☐

DISTRICT COURT

Shall the following judge or associate judge of the District Court be retained in office?

CANDIDATE'S NAME	YES ☐	NO ☐

Shall the following clerk of the District Court be retained in office?

CANDIDATE'S NAME	YES ☐	NO ☐

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §46.21]
83 Acts, ch 186, §10024, 10201; 89 Acts, ch 136, §30
Voting mark generally, see §49.92

46.22 Voting.

Voting at judicial elections shall be by separate paper ballot, special paper ballot, ballot cards, or by voting machine in the space provided for public measures. If paper ballots are used the election judges shall offer a ballot to each voter. If special paper ballots or ballot cards are used, either a separate ballot or a distinct heading may be used to distinguish the judicial ballot. Separate ballot boxes for the general election ballots and the judicial election ballots are not required. The general election ballot and the judicial election ballot may be voted in the same voting booth.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §46.22]
90 Acts, ch 1238, §10

46.23 General election and absent voter laws.

So far as applicable general election and absent voter laws shall apply to judicial elections. An application for an absent voter ballot for a general election shall also constitute an application for an absent voter ballot for a judicial election to be held at the same time, and the ballots shall be mailed or delivered to the voter together. The sealed envelope transmitted by the absent voter to the county commissioner of elections containing the absent voter general election ballot may also contain the judicial election ballot.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §46.23]

46.24 Results of election.

A judge of the supreme court, court of appeals, or district court including a district associate judge, or a clerk of the district court must receive more affirmative than negative votes to be retained in office. When the poll is closed, the election judges shall publicly canvass the vote forthwith. The board of supervisors shall canvass the returns on the Monday or Tuesday after the election, and shall promptly certify the number of affirmative and negative votes on each judge or clerk to the state commissioner of elections.

The state board of canvassers shall, at the time of canvassing the vote cast at a general election, open and canvass all of the returns for the judicial election. Each judge of the supreme court, court of appeals or district court including a district associate judge, or a clerk of the district court who has received more affirmative than negative votes shall receive from the state board of canvassers an appropriate certificate so stating.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §46.24]

83 Acts, ch 186, §10025, 10201; 90 Acts, ch 1238, §11

46.25 Eligible elector defined.

As used in this chapter, the term *"eligible elector"* has the meaning assigned that term by section 39.3.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §46.25]

CHAPTER 47

ELECTION COMMISSIONERS

Chapter applicable to primary elections, §43.5
See also definitions in §39.3

47.1 State commissioner of elections.
47.2 County commissioner of elections.
47.3 Election expenses.
47.4 Voter qualifications. Repealed by 94 Acts, ch 1169, §66, 68.
47.5 Purchasing by competitive bidding.
47.6 Election dates — conflicts — public measures.
47.7 State registrar of voters.
47.8 Voter registration commission — composition — duties.

47.1 State commissioner of elections.

The secretary of state is designated as the state commissioner of elections and shall supervise the activities of the county commissioners of elections. There is established within the office of the secretary of state a division of elections which shall be under the direction of the state commissioner of elections. The state commissioner of elections may appoint a person to be in charge of the division of elections who shall perform the duties assigned by the state commissioner of elections. The state commissioner of elections shall prescribe uniform election practices and procedures, shall prescribe the necessary forms required for the conduct of elections, shall assign a number to each proposed constitutional amendment and statewide public measure for identification purposes, and shall adopt rules, pursuant to chapter 17A, to carry out this section.

The state commissioner of elections may exercise emergency powers over any election being held in a district in which either a natural or other disaster or extremely inclement weather has occurred. The state commissioner of elections may also exercise emergency powers during an armed conflict involving United States armed forces, or mobilization of those forces, or if an election contest court finds that there were errors in the conduct of an election making it impossible to determine the result.

The secretary of state is designated the chief state election official and is responsible for coordination of state responsibilities under the federal National Voter Registration Act of 1993.

The state commissioner shall adopt rules describing the emergency powers and the situations in which the powers will be exercised.

[C71, §49A.6; C73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §47.1; 81 Acts, ch 34, §8]
91 Acts, ch 129, §10; 93 Acts, ch 143, §9; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §45
See also §56.5(4)

47.2 County commissioner of elections.

1. The county auditor of each county is designated as the county commissioner of elections in each county. The county commissioner of elections shall conduct voter registration pursuant to chapter 48A and conduct all elections within the county.

2. When an election is to be held as required by law or is called by a political subdivision of the state and the political subdivision is located in more than one county, the county commissioner of elections of the county having the greatest taxable base within the political subdivision shall conduct that election. The county commissioners of elections of the other counties in which the political subdivision is located shall cooperate with the county commissioner of elections who is conducting the election.

3. The commissioner may designate as a deputy county commissioner of elections any officer of a political subdivision who is required by law to accept nomination papers filed by candidates for office in that political subdivision, and when so designated that person shall assist the commissioner in administering elections conducted by the commissioner for that subdivision. The designation of a person as a deputy commissioner of elections pursuant to this section, once made, shall continue in effect until the designation is withdrawn by the commissioner.

4. The commissioner shall assign each local public measure a letter for identification purposes. The public measure on the ballot shall be identified by the letter.

The county commissioner who is responsible under subsection 2 for conducting the elections held for a political subdivision which lies in more than one county shall assign the letter to the public measure. The county commissioners of elections of the other counties in which the political subdivision is located shall not assign the same letter to a local public measure on the ballot in their counties during the same election.

5. The office of county auditor or county commissioner of elections in each county shall be open for at least eight hours on the Saturday preceding a general election, primary election, or special election called by the governor for the purpose of receiving absentee ballots and conducting other official business relating to the election.

6. On the final date for filing nomination papers in the commissioner's office the office shall be open until the time for receiving nomination papers has passed.

[C73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §47.2; 81 Acts, ch 34, §9]

84 Acts, ch 1291, §3; 89 Acts, ch 136, §31; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §46

47.3 Election expenses.

The costs of conducting a special election called by the governor, general election, and the primary election held prior to the general election shall be paid by the county.

The cost of conducting other elections shall be paid by the political subdivision for which the election is held. The costs shall include, but not be limited to, the printing of the ballots and the election register, publication of notices, printing of declaration of eligibility affidavits, compensation for precinct election boards, canvass materials, and the preparation and installation of voting machines. The county commissioner of elections shall certify to the county board of supervisors a statement of cost for an election. The cost shall be assessed by the county board of supervisors against the political subdivision for which the election was held.

Costs of registration and administrative and clerical costs shall not be charged as a part of the election costs.

If voting machines are used in any election, the county commissioner of elections shall not charge any political subdivision of the state a rental fee for the use of any voting machines.

The cost of maintenance of voter registration records and of preparation of election registers and any other voter registration lists required by the commissioner in the discharge of the duties of that office shall be paid by the county. Administrative and clerical costs, incurred by the registrar in discharging the duties of that office shall be paid by the state.

[C97, §1129; S13, §1129, 2754; SS15, §1087-a5; C24, §560, 835, 4203; C27, §560, 718-b18, 4203; C31, 35, §560, 718-b18, 4216-c15; C39, §560, 718.18, 4216.15; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, §43.32, 48.18, 49.118, 277.15; C73, §43.32, 47.3, 277.15; C75, 77, 79, 81, §47.3]

For compensation of precinct election officials, see §49.20

47.4 Voter qualifications. Repealed by 94 Acts, ch 1169, §66, 68. See §48A.5.

47.5 Purchasing by competitive bidding.

1. The commissioner shall take bids for goods and services which are needed in connection with registration of voters or preparation for or administration of elections and which will be performed or provided by persons who are not employees of the commissioner under the following circumstances:

a. In any case where it is proposed to purchase data processing services. The commissioner shall give the registrar written notice in advance on each occasion when it is proposed to have data processing services, necessary in connection with the administration of elections, performed by any person other than the registrar or an employee of the county. Such notice shall be made at least thirty days prior to publication of the specifications.

b. In the case of arrangements for printing of ballots, where the cost of the printing will exceed five thousand dollars.

c. In all other cases, where the cost of the goods or services to be purchased will exceed one thousand dollars.

d. No bids shall be required for legal services.

2. When it is proposed to purchase any goods or services, other than data processing services, in connection with administration of elections, the commissioner shall publish notice to bidders, including specifications regarding the goods or services to be purchased or a description of the nature and object of the services to be retained, in a newspaper of general circulation in the county not less than fifteen days before the final date for submission of bids. The commissioner shall also file a copy of the bid specifications in the office of the state commissioner for a period of not less than twenty days prior to such final date. When competitive bidding procedures are used, the purchase of goods or services shall be made from the lowest responsible bidder which meets the specifications or description of the services needed or the commissioner may reject all bids and readvertise. In determining the lowest responsible bidder, various factors may be considered, including but not limited to the past performance of the bidder relative to quality of product or service, the past experience of the purchaser in relation to the product or service, the relative quality of products or services, the proposed terms of delivery and the best interest of the county.

3. The procedure for purchasing data processing services in connection with administration of elections is the same as prescribed in subsection 2, except that the required copy of the bid specifications shall be filed with the registrar rather than the state commissioner. The specifications for data processing contracts relative to voter registration records shall be specified by the registration commission. The registrar shall, not later than the final date for submission of bids, inform the commissioner in writing whether the department of general services data processing facilities are currently capable of furnishing the services the county proposes to purchase, and if so the cost to the county of so obtaining the services as determined in accordance with the standard charges adopted by the registration commission. The commissioner, with approval of the board of supervisors, may reject all bids and enter into an arrangement with the registrar for the services to be furnished by the state. The commissioner may recommend and the board of supervisors may approve purchasing the needed services from the lowest responsible bidder; however, if the needed services could be obtained through the registrar at a lower cost, the board shall publish notice twice in a newspaper of general circulation in the county of its intent to accept such bid and of the difference in the amount of the bid and the cost of purchasing the needed services from the department of general services data processing facilities through the registrar. Each contract for the furnishing of data processing services necessary in connection with the administration of elections, by any person other than the registrar or an employee of the county, shall be executed with the contractor by the board of supervisors of the county purchasing the services, but only after the contract has been reviewed and approved by the registration commission. The contract shall be of not more than one year's duration. Each county exercising the option to purchase such data processing services from a provider other than the registrar shall provide the registrar, at the county's expense, original and updated voter registration lists in a form and at times prescribed by rules adopted by the registration commission.

4. Any election or registration data or records which may be in the possession of a contractor shall remain the property of the commissioner. Contracts with a private person relating to the maintenance and use of voter registration data, which were properly entered into in compliance with this section and with all other laws relating to bidding on such contracts, shall remain in force only until the most recently negotiated termination date of that contract. A new contract with the same provider may be entered into in accordance with subsection 3.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §47.5]

86 Acts, ch 1245, §312

47.6 Election dates — conflicts — public measures.

1. The governing body of any political subdivision which has authorized a special election to which section 39.2 is applicable shall by written notice inform the commissioner who will be responsible for conducting the election of the proposed date of the special election. If a public measure will appear on the ballot at the special election the governing body shall submit the complete text of the public measure to the commissioner with the notice of the proposed date of the special election.

If the proposed date of the special election coincides with the date of a regularly scheduled election, the notice shall be given no later than five p.m. on the last day on which nomination papers may be filed for the regularly scheduled election. Otherwise, the notice shall be given at least thirty-two days in advance of the date of the proposed special election. Upon receiving the notice, the commissioner shall promptly give written approval of the proposed date unless it appears that the special election, if held on that date, would conflict with a regular election or with another special election previously scheduled for that date.

A public measure shall not be withdrawn from the ballot at any election if the public measure was placed on the ballot by a petition, or if the election is a special election called specifically for the purpose of deciding one or more public measures for a single political subdivision. However, a public measure which was submitted to the county commissioner of elections by the governing body of a political subdivision may be withdrawn by the governing body which submitted the public measure if the public measure was to be placed on the ballot of a regularly scheduled election. The notice of withdrawal must be made by resolution of the governing body and must be filed with the commissioner no later than the last day upon which a candidate may withdraw from the ballot.

2. For the purpose of this section, a conflict between two elections exists only when one of the elections would require use of precinct boundaries which differ from those to be used for the other election, or when some but not all of the qualified electors of any precinct would be entitled to vote in one of the elections and all of the qualified electors of the same precinct would be entitled to vote in the other election. Nothing in this subsection shall deny a commissioner discretionary authority to approve holding a special election on the same date as another election, even though the two elections may be defined as being in conflict, if the commissioner concludes that to do so will cause no undue difficulties.

[C77, 79, 81, §47.6]

89 Acts, ch 136, §32; 90 Acts, ch 1238, §12; 93 Acts, ch 143, §10

47.7 State registrar of voters.

1. The senior administrator of data processing services in the department of general services is designated the state registrar of voters, and shall regulate the preparation, preservation, and maintenance of voter registration records, the preparation of precinct election registers for all elections administered by the commissioner of any county, and the preparation of other data on voter registration and participation in elections which is requested and purchased at actual cost of preparation and production by a political party or any resident of this state. The registrar shall maintain a log, which is a public record, showing all lists and reports which have been requested or generated or which are capable of being generated by existing programs of the data processing services in the department of general services. In the execution of the duties provided by this chapter, the state registrar of voters and the state commissioner of elections shall provide the maximum public access to the electoral process permitted by law.

2. The registrar shall offer to each county in the state the opportunity to arrange for performance of all functions referred to in subsection 1 by the data processing facilities of the department of general services, commencing at the earliest practicable time, at a cost to the county determined in accordance with the standard charges for those services adopted by the registration commission. A county may accept this offer without taking bids under section 47.5.

3. Any county may use its own data processing facilities for voter registration record keeping and utilization functions, if the system design and the form in which the registration records are kept conform to specifications established by rules promulgated by the registration commission. Each county exercising the option to maintain its own voter registration records under this subsection shall provide the registrar, at the county's expense, original and updated voter registration lists in a form and at times prescribed by the registrar.

4. Not later than July 1, 1984, information listed in section 48A.11 contained in a county's manual records but not on the county's computer readable records shall be provided to the registrar in a form specified by the registrar. The registrar shall require that any information supplied under section 48A.11, except the signature and attestation of the registrant, be provided to the registrar in a form specified by the registrar.

[C77, 79, 81, §47.7; 81 Acts, ch 34, §10]

83 Acts, ch 176, §1, 10; 86 Acts, ch 1245, §313; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §47

47.8 Voter registration commission — composition — duties.

1. There is established a state voter registration commission which shall meet at least quarterly to make and review policy, adopt rules, and establish procedures to be followed by the registrar in discharging the duties of that office. The commission shall consist of the state commissioner of elections or the state commissioner's designee and the state chairpersons of the two political parties whose candidates for president of the United States or governor, as the case may be, received the greatest and next greatest number of votes in the most recent general election, or their respective designees, who shall serve without additional salary or reimbursement.

2. The registration commission shall prescribe the forms required for voter registration by rules promulgated pursuant to chapter 17A.

3. The registrar shall provide staff services to the commission and shall make available to it all information relative to the activities of the registrar's office in connection with the registration of voters in this state which may be requested by any commission member. The commission may authorize the registrar to employ such additional staff personnel as it deems necessary to permit the duties of the registrar's office to be adequately and promptly discharged. Such personnel shall be employed pursuant to chapter 19A.

4. The registration commission shall annually adopt a set of standard charges to be made for the services the registrar is required to offer to the several commissioners, and for furnishing of voter registration records which are requested by persons other than the registrar, the state commissioner or any commissioner pursuant to section 48A.38. These charges shall be sufficient to reimburse the state for the actual cost of furnishing such services or information, and shall be specified by unit wherever possible. The standard charges shall be adopted by the commission by January 15 of each calendar year.

[C77, 79, 81, §47.8]

93 Acts, ch 143, §11; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §48

CHAPTER 48

PERMANENT REGISTRATION

Repealed effective January 1, 1995, by 94 Acts, ch 1169, §66–68;

see chapter 48A

CHAPTER 48A

VOTER REGISTRATION

Chapter applicable to primary elections, §43.5

See also definitions in §39.3

SUBCHAPTER I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

48A.1 Statement of intent.
48A.2 Definitions.
48A.3 Commissioner of registration.
48A.4 Qualification of officers.

SUBCHAPTER II

QUALIFICATIONS TO REGISTER TO VOTE

48A.5 Voter qualifications.
48A.5A Determination of residence.
48A.6 Disqualified electors.
48A.7 Registration in person.
48A.8 Registration by mail.
48A.9 Voter registration deadlines.
48A.10 Registration required.

SUBCHAPTER III

FORMS AND PROCEDURES FOR VOTER REGISTRATION

48A.11 Voter registration form.
48A.12 Federal mail voter registration form.
48A.13 Electronic signatures on voter registration records.
48A.14 Challenges of voter registrations.
48A.15 Commissioner's action upon receipt of challenge or withdrawal.
48A.16 Hearing on challenge — appeal.

SUBCHAPTER IV

PLACES TO REGISTER

48A.17 Registration at commissioner's office.
48A.18 Voter registration at motor vehicle driver's license stations.
48A.19 Voter registration agencies.
48A.20 Prohibited acts by voter registration agency employees.
48A.21 Transmission of forms from agencies and driver's license stations.

48A.22 Voter registration by volunteer organizations.
48A.23 Registration at educational institutions.
48A.24 Voter registration forms in income tax returns and booklets.
48A.25 Compensation for assistance in completing registration forms.

SUBCHAPTER V

PROCESSING VOTER REGISTRATION RECORDS

48A.26 Acknowledgment of registration form.
48A.27 Changes to voter registration records.
48A.28 Systematic confirmation program.
48A.29 Procedure upon return of confirmation card.
48A.30 Cancellation of voter registration.
48A.31 Deceased persons record.
48A.32 Destruction or removal of canceled voter registration records.
48A.33 Declination of registration opportunity.

SUBCHAPTER VI

RETENTION AND STORAGE OF VOTER REGISTRATION RECORDS

48A.34 Confidentiality of certain records.
48A.35 Voter registration records under control of the commissioner.
48A.36 Electronic registration record retention in voter registration agencies.
48A.37 Electronic registration records.
48A.38 Lists of voters.
48A.39 Use of registration information — penalty.
48A.40 Reports.

SUBCHAPTER VII

CRIMINAL PENALTIES

48A.41 Criminal penalties.

SUBCHAPTER I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

48A.1 Statement of intent.

It is the intent of the general assembly to facilitate the registration of eligible residents of this state through the widespread availability of voter registration services. This chapter and other statutes relating to voter registration are to be liberally construed toward this end.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §1

48A.2 Definitions.

The definitions established by this section and section 39.3 shall apply wherever the terms so defined appear in this chapter, unless the context in which any such term is used clearly requires otherwise.

1. *"Commissioner of registration"* means the county commissioner of elections as defined in section 47.2.

2. *"Homeless person"* means a person who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and who has a primary nighttime residence that is one of the following:

a. A supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations.

b. An institution that provides a temporary residence for persons intended to be institutionalized.

c. A public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

3. *"Mentally incompetent person"* means a person who has been legally determined to be severely or profoundly mentally retarded, or has been found incompetent in a proceeding held pursuant to section 229.27.

4. *"Voter registration agency"* means an agency designated to conduct voter registration under section 48A.19. Offices of the office of driver services of the state department of transportation are not voter registration agencies.

5. *"Voter registration form"* means an application to register to vote which must be completed by any person registering to vote.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §2

48A.3 Commissioner of registration.

The county commissioner of elections is designated the commissioner of registration for the county, and may appoint deputies and assistants, subject to the approval of the county board of supervisors, necessary to carry out the commissioner's responsibilities under this chapter and under rules of the state voter registration commission and the state registrar of voters.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §3

48A.4 Qualification of officers.

Before undertaking any voter registration duties, each voter registration officer, deputy, or assistant in whatever capacity, or clerk in the office of commissioner shall take an oath in the form prescribed by the state commissioner of elections.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §4

SUBCHAPTER II

QUALIFICATIONS TO REGISTER TO VOTE

48A.5 Voter qualifications.

1. An eligible elector wishing to vote in elections in Iowa shall register to vote as required by this chapter.

2. To be qualified to register to vote an eligible elector shall:

a. Be a citizen of the United States.

b. Be an Iowa resident. A person's residence, for voting purposes only, is the place which the person declares is the person's home with the intent to remain there permanently or for a definite, or indefinite or indeterminable length of time. A person who is homeless or has no established residence may declare residence in a precinct by describing on the voter registration form a place to which the person often returns.

c. Be at least eighteen years of age. Completed registration forms shall be accepted from registrants who are at least seventeen and a half years of age; however, the registration shall not be effective until the registrant reaches the age of eighteen.

d. Not claim the right to vote in more than one place. A registrant shall be presumed to revoke any earlier claim of residence for voter registration purposes.

3. If a person who meets the requirements set forth in subsection 2 moves to a new residence, either in Iowa or outside Iowa, and does not meet the voter requirements at the person's new residence, the person may vote at the person's former precinct in Iowa until the person meets the voter requirements of the person's new residence. However, a person who has moved to a new residence and fails to register to vote at the person's new residence after becoming eligible to do so shall not be entitled to vote at the person's former precinct in Iowa.

4. A citizen of the United States who lives outside of the United States has the right to register and vote as if the person were a resident of a precinct in Iowa if the citizen was an eligible elector of Iowa immediately before leaving the United States. A citizen who was not old enough to register to vote before leaving the United States but who met all of the other requirements for voter registration at that time also has the right to register and vote as if the person were a resident of a precinct in Iowa. This right applies even though while living outside the United States the citizen does not have a residence or other address in the precinct, and the citizen has not determined whether to return to Iowa. To qualify to vote in Iowa a United States citizen living outside the United States shall:

a. Comply with all applicable requirements of sections 53.37 to 53.53 relating to absentee ballots for members of the armed forces and other citizens living outside the United States.

b. Not maintain a residence, shall not be registered to vote, and shall not vote in any other state, territory, or possession of the United States.

c. Possess a valid passport or identity card and registration issued under authority of the United States secretary of state, or, if the citizen does not possess a valid passport or card of identity or registration, an alternative form of identification consistent with the provisions of applicable federal and state requirements.

5. If a United States citizen living outside the United States meets the requirements for voting, except for residence, has never lived in the United States, and has a parent who meets the definition of a member of the armed forces of the United States under section 53.37, the citizen is eligible to register to vote and vote at the same voting residence claimed by the citizen's parent.

6. The deadlines for voter registration shall not apply to a person who has been discharged from military service within thirty days preceding the date of an election. The person shall present to the precinct election official a copy of the person's discharge papers. The person shall complete a voter registration form and give it to the official before being permitted to vote.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §5

48A.5A Determination of residence.

Residence shall be determined in accordance with the following principles:

1. The residence of a person is in the precinct where the person's home or dwelling is located.

2. A residence for purposes of this chapter cannot be established in a commercial or industrial building that is not normally used for residential purposes unless the building is used as a primary nighttime residence.

3. A person does not lose residence if the person leaves the person's home to reside temporarily in another state or precinct.

4. If a person goes to another state or precinct and files an affidavit of residence in that state or precinct for election purposes, the person loses residence in the former state or precinct, unless the person moved to the other state after that state's deadline for registering to vote in a particular election.

5. A student who resides at or near the school the student attends, but who is also able to claim a residence at another location under the provisions of this section, may choose either location as the student's residence for voter registration and voting purposes.

6. If an active member of the United States armed forces, as defined by section 53.37, has previously resided at a location that meets the requirements of this section, that person may claim either that previous residence or the person's current residence as the person's residence for voter registration and voting purposes.

7. Notwithstanding subsections 1 through 6, the residence of a homeless person is in the precinct where the homeless person usually sleeps. Residence requirements shall be construed liberally to provide homeless persons with the opportunity to register to vote and to vote.

8. A person's declaration of residency for voter registration and voting purposes is presumed to be valid unless a preponderance of evidence indicates that another location should be considered the person's voting residence under the provisions of this chapter.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §6

48A.6 Disqualified electors.

The following persons are disqualified from registering to vote and from voting:

1. A person who has been convicted of a felony as defined in section 701.7, or convicted of an offense classified as a felony under federal law. If the person's rights are later restored by the governor, or by the president of the United States, the person may register to vote.

2. A person who has been legally determined to be mentally incompetent. Certification by the clerk of the district court that any such person has been found no longer incompetent by a court shall qualify such person to again be an elector, subject to the other provisions of this chapter.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §7

48A.7 Registration in person.

An eligible elector may register to vote by appearing personally and completing a voter registration form at the office of the commissioner in the county in which the person resides, at a motor vehicle driver's license station, or at any voter registration agency. A separate registration form shall be signed by each individual registrant.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §8

48A.8 Registration by mail.

An eligible elector may register to vote by completing a mail registration form. The form may be mailed or delivered by the registrant or the registrant's designee to the commissioner in the county where the person resides. A separate registration form shall be signed by each individual registrant.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §9

48A.9 Voter registration deadlines.

1. Registration closes at five p.m. eleven days before each election except primary and general elections. For primary and general elections, registration closes at five p.m. ten days before the election. An eligible elector may register during the time registration is closed in the elector's precinct but the registration shall not become effective until registration opens again in the elector's precinct.

2. The commissioner's office shall be open from eight a.m. until at least five p.m. on the day registration closes before each regularly scheduled election.

3. A registration form submitted by mail shall be considered on time if it is postmarked no later than the fifteenth day before the election, even if it is received by the commissioner after the deadline, or if the registration form is received by the commissioner no later than five p.m. on the last day to register to vote for an election, even if it is postmarked after the fifteenth day before the election.

4. Registration forms submitted to voter registration agencies or to motor vehicle driver's license stations shall be considered on time if they are received no later than five p.m. on the day registration closes for that election. Offices or agencies other than the county commissioner's office are not required to be open for voter registration purposes at times other than their usual office hours.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §10

48A.10 Registration required.

If a registered voter moves to a different county, the person shall submit a completed voter registration form to the commissioner in order to be qualified to vote in that county. An otherwise eligible elector whose right to vote has been restored pursuant to chapter 914 or who has been found not to be mentally incompetent may register to vote.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §11

SUBCHAPTER III

FORMS AND PROCEDURES FOR VOTER REGISTRATION

48A.11 Voter registration form.

1. Each voter registration form shall provide space for the registrant to provide the following information:

a. The county where the registrant resides.

b. The registrant's name.

c. The address at which the registrant resides and claims as the registrant's residence for voting purposes.

d. The registrant's mailing address if it is different from the residence address.

e. Social security number of the registrant (optional to provide).

f. Date of birth.

g. Sex.

h. Residential telephone number (optional to provide).

i. Political party registration.

j. The name and address appearing on the registrant's previous voter registration.

k. A space for a rural resident to provide township and section number, and such additional information as may be necessary to describe the location of the rural resident's home.

l. A space for a registrant who is homeless or who has no established residence to provide such information as may be necessary to describe a place to which the person often returns.

m. A statement that lists each eligibility requirement, contains an attestation that the registrant meets all of the requirements, and requires the signature of the registrant under penalty of perjury.

n. A space for the registrant's signature and the date signed.

2. The voter registration form shall include, in print that is identical to the attestation portion of the form, the following:

a. Each voter eligibility requirement.

b. The penalty provided by law for submission of a false voter registration form, which shall be the penalty for perjury as provided by section 902.9, subsection 4.

3. Voter registration forms used by voter registration agencies under section 48A.19 shall include the following statements:

a. If a person declines to register to vote, the fact that the person has declined to register will remain confidential and will be used only for voter registration purposes.

b. If a person does register to vote, the office at which the registrant submits a voter registration form will remain confidential and the information will be used only for voter registration purposes.

4. Voter registration forms may be on paper or electronic media.

5. All forms for voter registration shall be prescribed by rule adopted by the state voter registration commission.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §12

48A.12 Federal mail voter registration form.

The mail voter registration form prescribed by the federal election commission shall be accepted for voter registration in Iowa if all required information is provided, if it is signed by the registrant, and if the form is timely received.

The state commissioner of elections shall make the federal mail voter registration forms available for distribution to governmental and private entities, with particular emphasis on making them available to organized voter registration entities and programs.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §13

48A.13 Electronic signatures on voter registration records.

Electronic signatures shall be accepted. However, before the use of electronic signatures is accepted on voter registration forms, the state voter registration commission shall prescribe by rule the technological requirements for guaranteeing the security and integrity of electronic signatures.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §14

48A.14 Challenges of voter registrations.

The registration of a registered voter may be challenged by another registered voter of the same county subject to the conditions and limitations of this section. A challenge shall be a statement in writing to the commissioner alleging one or more of the following reasons the challenged registrant's registration should not have been accepted or should be canceled:

a. The challenged registrant is not a citizen of the United States.

b. The challenged registrant is less than seventeen and one-half years of age.

c. The challenged registrant is not a resident at the address where the registrant is registered.

d. The challenged registrant has falsified information on the registrant's registration form.

e. The challenged registrant has been convicted of a felony, and the registrant's voting rights have not been restored.

f. The challenged registrant has been adjudged mentally incompetent by a court of law and no subsequent proceeding has reversed that finding.

2. A challenge shall not contain allegations against more than one registered voter.

3. A challenge shall contain a statement signed by the challenger in substantially the following form: "I swear or affirm that information contained on this challenge is true. I understand that knowingly filing a challenge containing false information is a serious misdemeanor."*

4. A challenge may be filed at any time. A challenge filed less than seventy days before a regularly scheduled election shall not be processed until after the pending election unless the challenge is filed within twenty days of the commissioner's receipt of the challenged registrant's registration form or notice of change to an existing registration.

5. A challenger may withdraw a challenge at any time before the hearing held pursuant to section 48A.16 by notifying the commissioner in writing of the withdrawal.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §15

*See §48A.41; aggravated misdemeanor probably intended; corrective legislation pending

48A.15 Commissioner's action upon receipt of challenge or withdrawal.

1. A challenge is valid if it meets the criteria in section 48A.14, subsections 1, 2, and 3.

2. Upon receipt of a challenge which is not valid, the commissioner shall notify the challenger of the reason the challenge is not valid, and shall take no further action regarding the challenge.

3. Upon receipt of a valid challenge, the commissioner shall, within five working days, notify the challenged registrant and the challenger of the date, time, and place of a hearing on the matter of the challenge, to be held not less than twenty nor more than thirty days from the commissioner's receipt of the challenge. The notice of a hearing shall include a copy of the challenge, and shall advise the challenged registrant that the registrant may personally appear at the hearing, or may submit to the commissioner before the hearing evidence, documentation, or statements refuting the challenge.

4. The notice prescribed by subsection 3 shall be sent by first class forwardable mail to the challenged registrant at the registrant's most recent mailing address according to the registration records.

5. If the challenge is withdrawn, the commissioner shall immediately notify the challenged registrant of the withdrawal, and shall cancel the scheduled hearing.

6. If the challenged registrant notifies the commissioner that the challenged registrant wishes to appear in person but is unable to do so on the date scheduled, the commissioner may reschedule the hearing.

94 Acts, ch 1169 §16

48A.16 Hearing on challenge — appeal.

1. At the time and place fixed for the hearing, the commissioner shall accept evidence on the challenge from the challenger and the challenged registrant, or from any person appearing on behalf of either, and review any documents or statements pertaining to the challenge received before the hearing. On the basis of the evidence submitted, the commissioner shall either reject the challenge or cancel the registration of the challenged registrant. Either the challenged registrant or the challenger may appeal the commissioner's decision to the district court in the commissioner's county, and the decision of the court shall be final.

2. If a challenged registrant does not personally appear at the hearing and the challenged registrant's registration is canceled, the commissioner shall immediately notify the challenged registrant of the cancellation by first class forwardable mail sent to the challenged registrant's most recent mailing address according to the registration records.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §17

SUBCHAPTER IV

PLACES TO REGISTER

48A.17 Registration at commissioner's office.

A person who meets the qualifications to vote may appear in person at the office of the county commissioner of registration and apply to register to vote.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §18

48A.18 Voter registration at motor vehicle driver's license stations.

1. Each state motor vehicle driver's license application, including any renewal application or application for a nonoperator's identification card, submitted to the office of driver services of the state department of transportation shall serve as an application for voter registration unless the applicant declines to register to vote. A completed voter registration form submitted to the office of driver services of the state department of transportation shall be considered to update any previous voter registration by the registrant.

2. A change of address form submitted to the office of driver services of the state department of transportation shall serve as a change of address for voter registration purposes unless the registrant states on the form that the change of address is not for voter registration purposes.

3. Information relating to the refusal of an applicant for a driver's license to apply to register to vote shall not be used for any purpose other than voter registration.

4. Forms and procedures used by the office of driver services for voter registration and a schedule for transmission of voter registration forms from the office to the county commissioner of registration shall be prescribed by the state voter registration commission by rule.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §19

48A.19 Voter registration agencies.

1. The following state agencies are responsible for voter registration:

a. All state offices that have direct client contact and provide applications for public assistance, including but not limited to offices administering the following programs:

(1) Food stamps.

(2) Medical assistance under chapter 249A.

(3) Iowa family investment program.

(4) Special supplemental food program for women, infants, and children.

b. All offices that provide state-funded programs primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities, incuding but not limited to all of the following:

(1) Department for the blind.

(2) Division of vocational rehabilitation services of the department of education.

(3) Deaf services division of the department of human rights or its sucessor agency.

(4) Division of persons with disabilities of the department of human rights or its successor agency.

An agency designated a voter registration agency under this paragraph which provides services to persons with disabilities in their homes shall provide voter registration services at the clients' homes.

c. Other federal and state agencies designated to provide voter registration services include, but are not limited to, the United States armed forces recruiting offices.

2. Agencies designated to provide voter registration services shall provide the following services:

a. Distribution of a voter registration form either on paper or electronic medium.

b. Assistance to registrants in completing voter registration forms, unless the registrant refuses assistance.

c. Acceptance of completed voter registration forms for transmittal as required in section 48A.21.

3. The voter registration agency shall provide voter registration services with each application for services or assistance and with each recertification, renewal, or change of address form completed relating to the agency's services. The secretary of state shall adopt administrative rules in cooperation with voter registration agencies to carry out the requirements of this section.

4. The voter registration agency shall provide a form to applicants that includes all of the following:

a. The question, "If you are not registered to vote where you live now, would you like to apply to register to vote here today?"

b. If the agency provides public assistance, the statement, "Applying to register or declining to register to vote will not affect the amount of assistance that you will be provided by this agency."

c. Boxes for the applicant to check and choices in substantially the following form:

☐ I want to register to vote.
☐ I do not want to register to vote.

The following statement shall be printed near the choices and shall be printed in large, readable type:

"If you do not check either box, you will be considered to have decided not to register to vote at this time."

d. The statement, "If you would like help in filling out the voter registration form, we will help you. The decision whether to seek or accept help is yours. You may fill out the application form in private."

However, in those voter registration agencies where electronic forms are used, the following statement shall be used: "If you want to fill out the form in private, a separate paper form for voter registration will be provided."

e. The statement, "If you believe that someone has interfered with your right to register or to decline to register to vote, your right to privacy in deciding whether to register or in applying to register to vote, or your right to choose your own political party or other political preference, you may file a complaint with the state voter registration commission." The name, address, and telephone number of the voter registration commission shall complete the statement.

The voter registration agency may distribute the voter registration form either on paper or by electronic medium.

5. The voter registration agency shall provide each applicant who chooses to register to vote the same degree of assistance in completing the registration form as is provided by the office for the completion of its own forms unless the applicant refuses such assistance.

6. Completed voter registration forms shall be transmitted as provided in section 48A.21.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §20

48A.20 Prohibited acts by voter registration agency employees.

A person who provides voter registration services as required by this subchapter shall not:

1. Seek to influence an applicant's political preference or party registration.

2. Display a political preference or party affiliation.

3. Make any statement to an applicant or take any action which has the purpose or effect of discouraging the applicant from registering to vote.

4. Make any statement to an applicant or take any action which has the purpose or effect of leading the applicant to believe that a decision to register or not to register to vote has any bearing on the availability of services or benefits.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §21

48A.21 Transmission of forms from agencies and driver's license stations.

The state registrar of voters shall adopt administrative rules regulating the transmission of completed voter registration forms from voter registration agencies and from driver's license stations. All completed voter registration applications in the possession of a voter registration agency or a driver's license station at five p.m. on the last work day of each week shall be transmitted to the location designated by the state registrar of voters by rule. Procedures or requirements for more frequent transmissions may be specified by rule.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §22

48A.22 Voter registration by volunteer organizations.

The secretary of state shall encourage volunteer organizations to undertake voter registration drives by providing mail registration forms at the cost of production.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §23

48A.23 Registration at educational institutions.

1. At least twice during each school year, the board of directors of each school district operating a high school and the authorities in charge of each accredited nonpublic school shall offer the opportunity to register to vote to each student who is at least seventeen and one-half years of age.

2. All postsecondary schools, including but not limited to colleges, universities, and trade and technical schools which receive state funding, shall offer the opportunity to register to vote to each student at least once each year. Students shall be provided with the federal voter registration form or the Iowa voter registration form, as applicable.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §24

48A.24 Voter registration forms in income tax returns and booklets.

For odd-numbered tax years, the director of revenue and finance shall insert securely in each individual income tax return form or instruction booklet two voter registration forms, designed according to rules adopted by the state voter registration commission.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §25

48A.25 Compensation for assistance in completing registration forms.

A person may pay, offer to pay, or accept compensation for assisting others in completing voter registration forms only if the compensation is based solely on the time spent providing the assistance. Paying, offering to pay, or receiving compensation based on the number of registration forms completed, or the party affiliations shown on completed registration forms, or on any other performance criteria, is a serious misdemeanor.

This section shall not apply to state statutuory political committees, as defined in section 43.111.

This section shall not apply to state and political subdivision employees who are required to offer assistance to clients as a part of their regular job duties, and who shall not be granted additional compensation for voter registration activities. A person assisting another in completing a voter registration form shall not complete any portion of the form without the knowledge or consent of the registrant.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §26

SUBCHAPTER V

PROCESSING VOTER REGISTRATION RECORDS

48A.26 Acknowledgment of registration form.

1. Within seven working days of receipt of a voter registration form or change of information in a voter registration record the commissioner shall send an acknowledgment to the registrant at the mailing address shown on the registration form. The acknowledgment shall be sent by first class nonforwardable mail.

2. If the registration form appears on its face to be complete and proper, the acknowledgment shall state that the registrant is now a registered voter of the county. The acknowledgment shall also specify the name of the precinct and the usual polling place for the precinct in which the person is now registered. The acknowledgment may include the political party affiliation most recently recorded by the registrant.

3. If the registration form is missing required information, the acknowledgment shall advise the applicant what additional information is required. The commissioner shall enclose a new registration by mail form for the applicant to use. If the registration form has no address, the commissioner shall make a reasonable effort to determine where the acknowledgment should be sent.

4. If the acknowledgment is returned as undeliverable by the United States postal service, the commissioner shall follow the procedure described in section 48A.29, subsection 1.

5. If a registrant has not supplied enough information on a registration form for the commissioner to determine the correct precinct and other districts, the commissioner shall obtain the information as quickly as possible either from the registrant or other sources available to the commissioner.

6. An improperly addressed or delivered registration form shall be forwarded to the appropriate county commissioner of registration within two working days after it is received by any other official. The date of registration shall be the date the registration form was received by the first official. If the registration form was postmarked fifteen or more days before an election and the registration form was received by the first official after the close of registration, the registration form shall be considered on time for the election.

7. When a person who is at least seventeen and one-half years of age but less than eighteen years of age registers to vote, the commissioner shall maintain a record of the registration so as to clearly indicate that it will not take effect until the registrant's eighteenth birthday and that the person is registered and qualifies to vote at any election held on or after that date.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §27

48A.27 Changes to voter registration records.

1. Any voter registration form received by any voter registration agency, driver's license station, or the commissioner shall be considered as updating the registrant's previous registration.

2. *a.* A person who is registered to vote may request changes in the voter's registration record at any time by submitting one of the following, as applicable:

(1) A written notice to the county commissioner.

(2) A completed Iowa or federal mail registration form to the county commissioner.

(3) On election day, a registration form to the precinct election officials at the precinct of the voter's current residence.

(4) A change of address form to the office of driver services of the state department of transportation.

(5) A change of address notice for voter registration submitted to any voter registration agency.

b. If a change of name, telephone number, or address is submitted under this subsection, the commissioner shall not change the party affiliation in the elector's prior registration other than that indicated by the elector.

3. The commissioner shall make the necessary changes in the registration records without any action by the registrant when any of the following events occur:

a. Annexation of territory by a city. When an existing city annexes territory, the city clerk shall furnish the commissioner a detailed map of the annexed territory. The commissioner shall change the registration of persons residing in that territory to reflect the annexation and the city precinct to which each of those persons is assigned. If the commissioner cannot determine the names and addresses of the persons affected by the annexation, the commissioner shall send each person who may be involved a letter informing the person that the person's registration may be in error, and requesting that each person provide the commissioner with the information necessary to correct the registration records.

b. Change of official street name or house or building number by a city or county. When the city or county changes the name of a street or the number of a house or other building in which a person resides, the city clerk or county board of supervisors shall inform the commissioner of the change, and the commissioner shall change the registration of each person affected.

c. Incorporation or discontinuance of a city. When a new city is incorporated or an existing city is discontinued, the city clerk shall notify the commissioner. The commissioner shall change the registration of each person affected.

d. Change of rural route designation of the residence of the registered voter. The commissioner shall request each postmaster in the county to inform the commissioner of each change in rural route designation and the names of the persons affected, and the commissioner shall change the registration of each person as appropriate.

4. *a.* A commissioner, either independently or in cooperation with the state registrar of voters, and in accordance with rules of the state voter registration commission, may enter into an agreement with a licensed vendor of the United States postal service participating in the national change of address program to identify registered voters of the county who may have moved either within or outside the county.

b. If the information provided by the vendor indicates that a registered voter has moved to another address within the county, the commissioner shall change the registration records to show the new residence address, and shall also mail a notice of that action to both the former and new addresses. The notice shall be sent by forwardable first class mail, and shall include a postage prepaid preaddressed return form by which the registered voter may verify or correct the address information.

c. If the information provided by the vendor indicates that a registered voter has moved to an address outside the county, the commissioner shall make the registration record inactive, and shall mail a notice to the registered voter at both the former and new addresses.

The notice shall be sent by forwardable first class mail, and shall include a postage paid preaddressed return card on which the registered voter may state the registered voter's current address. The notice shall contain a statement in substantially the following form: "Information received from the United States postal service indicates that you are no longer a resident of, and therefore not eligible to vote in (name of county) County, Iowa. If this information is not correct, and you still live in (name of county) County, please complete and mail the attached postage paid card at least ten days before the primary or general election and at least eleven days before any other election at which you wish to vote. If the information is correct and you have moved, please contact a local official in your new area for assistance in registering there. If you do not mail in the card, you may be required to show identification proving your residence in (name of county) County before being allowed to vote in (name of county) County. If you do not return the card, and you do not vote in an election in (name of county) County, Iowa, on or before (date of second general election following the date of the notice) your name will be removed from the list of voters in that county. To ensure you receive this notice, it is being sent to both your most recent registration address and to your new address as reported by the postal service."

d. If the information provided by the vendor indicates the registered voter has moved to another county within the state, the notice required by paragraph *"c"* shall include a statement that registration in the county of the person's current residence is required, and shall provide a mail registration form for the person to use.

e. If a registered voter returns a card sent pursuant to this subsection and confirms that the registered voter has moved to a new residence outside the county, the commissioner shall cancel the registration of the voter.

f. If a registered voter returns a card sent pursuant to this subsection and states that the registered voter's residence address has not changed for the purpose of voter registration, the commissioner shall reinstate the record to active status, making any other changes directed by the registrant in the notice.

5. The commissioner shall keep a record of the names and addresses of the registered voters to whom notices under this section are sent and the date of the notice. When the return card from a notice is received by the commissioner, the commissioner shall record the date it was received and whether the registrant had moved within the county, moved to an address outside the county, or had not changed residence.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §28

48A.28 Systematic confirmation program.

1. Each commissioner shall conduct a systematic program that makes a reasonable effort to remove from the official list of registered voters the names of registered voters who have changed residence from their registration addresses. Either or both of the methods described in this section may be used.

2. A commissioner may participate in the United States postal service national change of address program, as provided in section 48A.27. The state voter registration commission shall adopt rules establishing specific requirements for participation and use of the national change of address program.

A commissioner participating in the national change of address program, in the first quarter of each calendar year, shall send a notice and preaddressed, postage paid return card by first class fowardable mail to each registered voter whose name was not reported by the national change of address program and who has not voted, registered again, or reported a change to an existing registration during the preceding four calendar years. The form and language of the notice and return card shall be specified by the state voter registration commission by rule. A registered voter shall not be sent a notice and return card under this subsection more frequently than once in a four-year period.

3. For a commissioner who is not participating in the national change of address program, in February of each year the commissioner shall mail a confirmation notice to each registered voter in the county. The notice shall be sent by first class forwardable mail. The notice shall include a preaddressed, postage paid return card for the use of the registered voter or the recipient of the notice. The card shall contain boxes for the recipient to check to indicate one of the following:

a. That the recipient is the registered voter named on the card, and is still a resident at the address listed.

b. That the recipient is the registered voter named on the card, but is no longer a resident of the address listed.

c. That the recipient is not the registered voter named on the card, and the registered voter named on the card is not a resident of the address listed.

The form and language of the notice and return card shall be specified by the state voter registration commission by rule.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §29

48A.29 Procedure upon return of confirmation card.

1. If a confirmation notice and return card sent pursuant to section 48A.28 is returned as undeliverable by the United States postal service, the commissioner shall make the registration record inactive and shall mail a notice to the registered voter at the registered voter's most recent mailing address, as shown by the registration records.

The notice shall be sent by forwardable first class mail, and shall include a postage paid preaddressed return card on which the registered voter may state the registered voter's current address. The notice shall contain a statement in substantially the following form: "Information received from the United States postal service indicates that you are no longer a resident of (residence address) in (name of county) County, Iowa. If this information is not correct, and you still live in (name of county) County, please complete and mail the attached postage paid card at least ten days before the primary or general election and at least eleven days before any other election at which you wish to vote. If the information is correct, and you have moved, please contact a local official in your new area for assistance in registering there. If you do not mail in the card, you may be required to show identification proving your residence in (name of county) County before being allowed to vote in (name of county) County. If you do not return the card, and you do not vote in some election in (name of county) County, Iowa, on or before (date of second general election following the date of the notice) your name will be removed from the list of voters in that county."

2. When a detachable return card originally attached to a confirmation notice is returned indicating that the registered voter is still a resident of the address shown on the registration records, the commissioner shall make a record of the date the card was received.

3. When a detachable return card originally attached to a confirmation notice is returned by anyone other than the registered voter indicating that the registered voter is no longer a resident of the registration address, the commissioner shall make the registration record inactive, and shall mail a notice to the registered voter at the registered voter's most recent mailing address, as shown by the registration records.

The notice shall be sent by forwardable first class mail, and shall include a postage paid preaddressed return card on which the registered voter may state the registered voter's current address. The notice shall contain a statement in substantially the following form: "Information received by this office indicates that you are no longer a resident of (residence address) in (name of county) County, Iowa. If the information is not correct, and you still live at that address, please complete and mail the attached postage paid card at least ten days before the primary or general election and at least eleven days before any other election at which you wish to vote. If the information is correct, and you have moved within the county, you may update your registration by listing your new address on the card and mailing it back. If you have moved outside the county, please contact a local official in your new area for assistance in registering there. If you do not mail in the card, you may be required to show identification proving your residence in (name of county) County before being allowed to vote in (name of county) County. If you do not return the card, and you do not vote in some election in (name of county) County, Iowa, on or before (date of second general election following the date of the notice) your name will be removed from the list of registered voters in that county."

94 Acts, ch 1169, §30

48A.30 Cancellation of voter registration.

1. The voter registration of a registered voter shall be canceled if any of the following occurs:

a. The registered voter dies. For the purposes of this subsection, the commissioner may accept as evidence of death a notice from the state registrar of vital statistics forwarded by the state registrar of voters, a written statement from a member of the registered voter's household, an obituary in a newspaper, a written statement from an election official, or a notice from the clerk of the district court in the county where the registered voter died.

b. The registered voter registers to vote in another jurisdiction, and the commissioner receives notice of the registration from the registration official in the other jurisdiction.

c. The registered voter requests the cancellation in writing.

For the purposes of this subsection, a confirmation by the registered voter that the registered voter is no longer a resident of the county constitutes a request for cancellation.

d. The clerk of the district court, or the United States attorney, or the state registrar sends notice of the registered voter's conviction of a felony as defined in section 701.7, or conviction of an offense classified as a felony under federal law. The clerk of the district court shall send notice of a felony conviction to the state registrar of voters. The registrar shall determine in which county the felon is registered to vote, if any, and shall notify the county commissioner of registration for that county of the felony conviction.

e. The clerk of the district court or the state registrar sends notice that the registered voter has been declared mentally incompetent under state law.

f. The registered voter's registration record has been inactive pursuant to section 48A.29 for two successive general elections.

2. When a registration is canceled pursuant to subsection 1, paragraph *"d"*, *"e"*, or *"f"*, the commissioner shall send a notice of the cancellation to the registered voter.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §31

48A.31 Deceased persons record.

The state registrar of vital statistics shall transmit or cause to be transmitted to the state registrar of voters, once each calendar quarter, a certified list of all persons seventeen and one-half years of age and older in the state whose deaths have been reported to the records and statistics division of the Iowa department of public health since the previous list of decedents was certified to the state registar of voters. The list shall be submitted according to the specifications of the state registrar of voters, who shall determine whether each listed decedent was registered to vote in this state. If the decedent was registered in a county which uses its own data processing facilities for voter registration recordkeeping, the registrar shall notify the commissioner in that county who shall cancel the decedent's registration. If the decedent was registered in a county for which voter registration recordkeeping is performed under contract by the registrar, the registrar shall immediately cancel the registration and notify the commissioner of the county in which the decedent was registered to vote of the cancellation.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §32

48A.32 Destruction or removal of canceled voter registration records.

Twenty-two months after the next general election following the cancellation of a person's voter registration, the commissioner may destroy all records of that person's registration. At the discretion of the commissioner, canceled records may be donated to a historical society if all confidential information has been removed from the records.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §33

48A.33 Declination of registration opportunity.

When a client or applicant of a voter registration agency declines to register to vote, the record of the declination shall be kept by the voter registration agency for twenty-two months after the next general election after which time the agency may destroy the records.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §34

SUBCHAPTER VI

RETENTION AND STORAGE OF VOTER REGISTRATION RECORDS

48A.34 Confidentiality of certain records.

Voter registration records are available for public inspection at reasonable times at the office of the county commissioner. The commissioner and any voter registration agency which has custody of voter registration records shall take the necessary steps to ensure that the name of the agency at which the voter registration form was submitted remains confidential.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §35

48A.35 Voter registration records under control of the commissioner.

The county commissioner of elections shall be responsible for the maintenance and storage of all paper and electronic voter registration records in the commissioner's custody. Original registration records shall not be removed from the commissioner's office or from any other designated permanent storage location except upon request of a county commissioner or a court order, or as provided by section 48A.32. The state registrar of voters and the state voter registration commission shall adopt administrative rules to implement this section.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §36

48A.36 Electronic registration record retention in voter registration agencies.

1. Voter registration agencies and the office of driver services of the state department of transportation may electronically transmit registration data to the state registrar of voters, who shall distribute the information, electronically or otherwise, to the appropriate commissioner in accordance with rules of the state voter registration commission and the state registrar of voters. The state agency originating the registration data shall permanently retain an electronic copy of the form completed by the registrant, including the registrant's signature, and shall develop procedures for the retrieval and printing of that electronic document. A printed copy of an electronic registration document shall be made only upon the agency's receipt of a court order.

2. Upon receipt of electronic registration data under subsection 1, the state registrar of voters may cause the updating of registration records for registrants in counties which have arranged for data processing services under section 47.7, subsection 2. The registrar shall notify the commissioner of the actions taken.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §37

48A.37 Electronic registration records.

1. Voter registration records shall be maintained in an electronic medium. A history of local election participation shall be maintained as part of the electronic record for at least two general, primary, school, and city elections. Absentee voting shall be recorded for the previous two general and primary elections. After each election, the county commissioner shall update telephone numbers provided by registered voters pursuant to section 49.77.

2. Electronic records shall include a status code designating whether the records are active or inactive. Inactive records are records of registered voters to whom notices have been sent pursuant to section 48A.28, subsection 3, and who have not returned the card or otherwise responded to the notice, and those records have been designated inactive pursuant to section 48A.29. All other records are active records. An inactive record shall be made active when the registered voter votes at an election, registers again, or reports a change of name, address, telephone number, or political party affiliation.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §38

48A.38 Lists of voters.

1. Any person may request of the registrar and shall receive, upon payment of the cost of preparation, a list of registered voters and other data on registration and participation in elections, in accordance with the following requirements and limitations:

a. The registrar shall prepare each list requested within fourteen days of receipt of the request, except that the registrar shall not be required to prepare any list within seven days of the close of registration for any regularly scheduled election if the preparation of the list would impede the preparation of election registers for that election.

b. Each list shall be as current as possible, but shall in all cases reflect voter activity reported to any commissioner twenty-eight or more days before preparation of the list.

c. Each list shall be in the order and form specified by the list purchaser, and shall contain the registration data specified by the list purchaser, provided compliance with the request is within the capability of the record maintenance system used by the registrar.

d. Lists prepared shall not include inactive records unless specifically requested by the requester.

e. The registrar shall prepare updates to lists at least biweekly, and after the close of registration for a regularly scheduled election, but before the election, if requested to do so at the time a list is purchased. All updates shall be made available to all requesters at the same time, and shall be in the order and form specified by each requester.

2. The registrar shall maintain a log of the name, address, and telephone number of every person who receives a list under this section, and of every person who reviews registration records in the office of the registrar. Commissioners of registration shall maintain a similar log in their offices of those who receive a list from the commissioner or who review registration records in the commissioner's office. Logs maintained under this subsection are public records, and shall be available for public inspection at reasonable times.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §39

48A.39 Use of registration information — penalty.

Information about individual registrants obtained from voter registration records shall be used only to request the registrant's vote at an election, or for another genuine political purpose, or for a bona fide official purpose by an elected official, or for bona fide political research, but shall not be used for any commercial purposes. A person who uses registration information in violation of this section commits a serious misdemeanor.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §40

48A.40 Reports.

At least once each month and at other times deemed appropriate, the county commissioner of registration shall report to the state registrar the number of persons registered in each county. The report shall include the registration totals for each political party and the number of persons not registered with a political party.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §41

SUBCHAPTER VII

CRIMINAL PENALTIES

48A.41 Criminal penalties.

1. A person who commits any of the following acts shall be guilty of a class "D" felony:

a. Willfully registers to vote, knowing oneself not to be eligible.

b. Willfully or knowingly provides false information for the purpose of registering to vote.

c. Willfully or knowingly registers a fictitious person to vote, or attempts to do so.

d. Forges another person's name to a voter registration form or other voter registration document.

2. A person who commits any of the following acts shall be guilty of an aggravated misdemeanor:

a. Willfully or knowingly entices another to fraudulently register to vote.

b. Conspires with another for the purpose of introducing information known to be false into voter registration records.

c. Willfully or knowingly destroys registration records, or attempts to do so, without proper authorization. For the purpose of this paragraph, an electronic record which has not been replaced with a more recent version of the same record is a registration record.

d. Files a challenge under section 48A.14 which the challenger knows contains false information pertaining to the reasons the registration is being challenged.

e. Willfully or knowingly intimidates or threatens, or attempts to intimidate or threaten, any person for registering to vote or attempting to register to vote, or intimidates, threatens, or coerces, or attempts to intimidate, threaten, or coerce any person to register to vote or to attempt to register to vote.

94 Acts, ch 1169, §42

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CHAPTER 49

METHOD OF CONDUCTING ELECTIONS

See also definitions in §39.3
Chapter applicable to primary election, §43.5
Criminal offenses, §722.4–722.9; also §43.119, 43.120

49.1 Elections included.
49.2 Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.
49.3 Election precincts.
49.4 Precincts drawn by county board.
49.5 City precincts.
49.6 Power to combine township and city precincts.
49.7 Reprecincting schedule and filing requirements.
49.8 Changes in precincts.
49.9 Proper place of voting.
49.10 Polling places for certain precincts.
49.11 Notice of boundaries of precincts — merger or division.
49.12 Election boards.
49.13 Commissioner to appoint members, chairperson.
49.14 Substitute precinct election officials.
49.15 Commissioner to draw up election board panel.
49.16 Tenure of election board panel.
49.17 Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.
49.18 Vacancies occurring on election day.
49.19 Unpaid officials, paper ballots optional for certain city elections.
49.20 Compensation of members.
49.21 Polling places — accessible to elderly and handicapped persons.
49.22 Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.
49.23 Notice of change.
49.24 Schoolhouses as polling places.
49.25 Equipment required at polling places.
49.26 Commissioner to decide method of voting.
49.27 Precincts where some voters may not vote for all candidates or questions.

49.28 Commissioner to furnish registers and supplies.
49.29 Voting by ballot or machine.
49.30 All candidates on one ballot — exceptions.
49.31 Arrangement of names on ballot — restrictions.
49.32 Candidates for president in place of electors.
49.33 Single square for certain paired offices.
49.34 Repealed by 75 Acts, ch 81, §154.
49.35 Order of arranging tickets on ballot.
49.36 Candidates of nonparty organization.
49.37 Arrangement of ballot.
49.38 Candidate's name to appear but once.
49.39 Dual nomination.
49.40 Failure to designate.
49.41 More than one office prohibited.
49.42 Form of official ballot.
49.43 Constitutional amendment or other public measure.
49.44 Summary.
49.45 General form of ballot.
49.46 Marking ballots on public measures.
49.47 Notice on ballots.
49.48 Notice for judicial officers and constitutional amendments.
49.49 Repealed by 75 Acts, ch 81, §154.
49.50 Endorsement and delivery of ballots.
49.51 Commissioner to control printing.
49.52 Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.
49.53 Publication of ballot and notice.
49.54 Cost of publication.
49.55 Delivery of supplies to officials.
49.56 Maximum cost of printing.
49.57 Method and style of printing ballots.
49.58 Effect of death of certain candidates.
49.59 to 49.62 Repealed by 75 Acts, ch 81, §154.
49.63 Time of printing — inspection and correction.

49.64 Number of ballots delivered.
49.65 Packing ballots — delivery — receipts — records.
49.66 Reserve supply of ballots.
49.67 Form of reserve supply.
49.68 State commissioner to furnish instructions.
49.69 Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.
49.70 Precinct election officials furnished instructions.
49.71 Posting instruction cards and sample ballots.
49.72 Absentee voters designated before polling place opened.
49.73 Time of opening and closing polls.
49.74 Registered voters entitled to vote after closing time.
49.75 Oath.
49.76 How administered.
49.77 Ballot furnished to voter.
49.78 Repealed by 72 Acts, ch 1025, §35.
49.79 Challenges.
49.80 Examination on challenge.
49.81 Procedure for challenged voter to cast ballot.
49.82 Voter to receive one ballot — endorsement.
49.83 Names to be marked on election register.
49.84 Marking and return of ballot.
49.85 Depositing ballots.
49.86 Failure to vote — return of ballot.
49.87 Prohibited ballot — taking ballot from polling place.
49.88 Limitation on persons in booth and time for voting.
49.89 Selection of officials to assist voters.
49.90 Assisting voter.
49.91 Assistance indicated on register.
49.92 Voting mark.
49.93 But one vote for same office except in groups.
49.94 How to mark a straight ticket.
49.95 Voting part of ticket only.
49.96 Group candidates for offices of same class.
49.97 How to mark a mixed ticket.
49.98 Counting ballots.
49.99 Writing name on ballot.
49.100 Spoiled ballots.
49.101 Defective ballot does not nullify vote.
49.102 Defective ballots.
49.103 Wrong ballots.
49.104 Persons permitted at polling places.
49.105 Ordering arrest.
49.106 Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.
49.107 Prohibited acts on election day.
49.108 Penalty. Repealed by 84 Acts, ch 1067, §51.
49.109 Employees entitled to time to vote.

49.110 Intimidation of employees by employer.
49.111 Unlawful acts.
49.112 Penalty. Repealed by 84 Acts, ch 1067, §51.
49.113 Official neglect or misconduct.
49.114 Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.
49.115 Repealed by 72 Acts, ch 1124, §282.
49.116 and 49.117 Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.
49.118 Repealed by 72 Acts, ch 1025, §35.
49.119 Penalty.
49.120 Promise of position.
49.121 Promise of influence.
49.122 Penalty. Repealed by 84 Acts, ch 1067, §51.
49.123 Courthouse open on election day.
49.124 Training course by commissioner.
49.125 Compensation of trainees.
49.126 Manual by state commissioner.
49.127 Commissioner to examine machines.
49.128 to 49.130 Reserved.
49.131 Political advertisements. Repealed by 86 Acts, ch 1023, §12.

49.1 Elections included.

The provisions of this chapter shall apply to all elections except those special elections which by the terms of the statutes authorizing them are exempt from the provisions of this chapter.

[C97, §1088; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §719; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.1]

49.2 Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.

49.3 Election precincts.

Election precincts shall be drawn by the county board of supervisors or the temporary county redistricting commission in all unincorporated portions of each county, and by the city council of each city in which it is necessary or deemed advisable to establish more than one precinct. Precincts established as provided by this chapter shall be used for all elections, except where temporary merger of established precincts is specifically permitted by law for certain elections, and no political subdivision shall concurrently maintain different sets of precincts for use in different types of elections. Election precincts shall be drawn so that:

1. No precinct shall have a total population in excess of three thousand five hundred, as shown by the most recent federal decennial census.

2. Each precinct is contained wholly within an existing legislative district, except:

a. When adherence to this requirement would force creation of a precinct which includes the places of residence of fewer than fifty qualified electors.

49.11 Notice of boundaries of precincts — merger or division.

The board of supervisors or the temporary county redistricting commission or city council shall number or name the precincts established by the supervisors or council pursuant to sections 49.3, 49.4, and 49.5. The boundaries of the precincts shall be recorded in the records of the board of supervisors, temporary county redistricting commission, or city council, as the case may be.

The board of supervisors or city council shall publish notice of changes in the county or city precinct boundaries in a newspaper of general circulation published in the county or city once each week for three consecutive weeks. The series of publications shall be made after the changes in the precincts have been approved by the state commissioner of elections. The last of the three publications shall be made no later than thirty days before the next general election. A map showing the new boundaries may be used. No publication is necessary if no changes were made.

The precincts established pursuant to section 49.7 shall not be changed except in the manner provided by law. However, for any election other than the primary or general election or any special election held under section 69.14, the county commissioner of elections may:

1. Consolidate two or more precincts into one. However, the commissioner shall not do so if there is filed with the commissioner at least twenty days before the election a petition signed by twenty-five or more eligible electors of any precinct requesting that it not be merged with any other precinct. There shall be attached to the petition the affidavit of an eligible elector of the precinct that the signatures on the petition are genuine and that all of the signers are to the best of the affiant's knowledge and belief eligible electors of the precinct.

If a special election is to be held in which only those registered voters residing in a specified portion of any established precinct are entitled to vote, that portion of the precinct may be merged by the commissioner with one or more other established precincts or portions of established precincts for the special election, and the right to petition against merger of a precinct shall not apply.

2. Divide any precinct permanently established under this section which contains all or any parts of two or more mutually exclusive political subdivisions, either or both of which is independently electing one or more officers or voting on one or more questions on the same date, into two or more temporary precincts and designate a polling place for each.

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of the first unnumbered paragraph of this section the commissioner may consolidate precincts for any election including a primary and general election under any of the following circumstances:

a. One of the precincts involved consists entirely of dormitories that are closed at the time the election is held.

b. The consolidated precincts, if established as a permanent precinct, would meet all requirements of section 49.3, and a combined total of no more than three hundred fifty voters voted in the consolidated precincts at the last preceding similar election.

c. The city council of a special charter city with a population of three thousand five hundred or less which is divided into council wards requests the commissioner to consolidate two or more precincts for any election.

[C73, §604; C97, §1092, 2755; S13, §2755; C24, §729, 4205; C27, §729, 4205, 4216-b2; C31, 35, §729, 4216-c5; C39, §729, 4216.05; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §49.11, 277.5; C75, 77, 79, 81, §49.11; 81 Acts, ch 34, §24]

93 Acts, ch 143, §16; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §64; 94 Acts, ch 1179, §13; 94 Acts, ch 1180, §12

preparation and use of a voting machine, paper ballots shall be used.

[S13, §2754; C24, 27, §4203; C31, 35, §4216-c15; C39, §4216.15; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §277.15; C75, 77, 79, 81, §49.26]

49.27 Precincts where some voters may not vote for all candidates or questions.

When the territory of a precinct is such that one or more of the candidates or questions on the ballot in any election may not be legally voted upon by all registered voters of the precinct, the commissioner may not place those candidates or questions upon a voting machine which may be used by registered voters of the entire precinct unless the machine is equipped with a device, readily operable by the election official attending the machine, by which that portion of the machine on which those candidates or questions appear may be locked when the machine is to be used by a registered voter not eligible to vote for those candidates or questions. If the voting machines in any precinct to which this section is applicable are not so designed, the commissioner may place the candidates or questions for which not all voters of the precinct may legally vote on one or more, but not all, of the voting machines in the precinct. In any precinct to which this section is applicable and in which neither of the foregoing procedures are feasible, or in which all voting is by paper ballot, the commissioner shall prepare separate ballots for the candidates or questions which may not be legally voted upon by all registered voters of the precinct, and shall furnish a separate ballot box in which only those ballots shall be deposited.

[C60, §2097, 2105; C73, §1800, 1801; C97, §1107, 1130, 2794; S13, §1090, 1130; SS15, §1107, 2794, 2794-a; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §745, 770, 4142, 4168; C46, 50, §49.27, 49.52, 274.24, 276.15; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §49.27, 49.52, 275.22; C75, 77, 79, 81, §49.27]

94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

49.28 Commissioner to furnish registers and supplies.

The commissioner shall prepare and furnish to each precinct an election register and all other books, forms, materials, equipment, and supplies necessary to conduct the election.

After the registration deadline and before election day the commissioner shall prepare an election register for each precinct in which voting will occur on the day of the election. The precinct election register shall be a list of the names and addresses of all registered voters of the precinct. Inactive records listed in the election register shall be clearly identified with a special mark or symbol.

When a precinct is divided by a district boundary, and some, but not all, registered voters of the precinct may vote on an issue or office from that district, the election register shall clearly indicate which of the registered voters are entitled to vote in the district.

[C51, §255; R60, §490; C73, §615; C97, §1113, 1132, 2756; S13, §1087-a16, 2756; C24, 27, §561, 746, 4209; C31, 35, §561, 746, 4216-c14; C39, §561, 746, 4216.14; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §43.33, 49.28, 277.14; C75, 77, 79, 81, §49.28]

94 Acts, ch 1169, §49

49.29 Voting by ballot or machine.

In all elections regulated by this chapter, the voting shall be by ballots printed and distributed as provided by law, or by voting machines meeting the requirements of chapter 52.

[C73, §1808; C97, §1097, 2754; S13, §2754; C24, 27, §747, 4198; C31, 35, §747, 4216-c13; C39, §747, 4216.13; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §49.29, 277.13; C75, 77, 79, 81, §49.29]

49.30 All candidates on one ballot — exceptions.

The names of all candidates to be voted for in each election precinct, other than presidential electors, shall be printed on one ballot, except that separate ballots are authorized under the following circumstances:

1. For judicial elections, separate ballots or headings shall be used as required by section 46.22.

2. At an election where voting machines are used, and it is impossible to place the names of all candidates on the machine ballot, the commissioner may provide a separate paper ballot for the candidates for judge of the district court and the township offices, or either; one of the paper ballots shall be furnished to each registered voter.

3. Separate paper ballots may be used for the election of township officers in precincts including both incorporated and unincorporated areas.

[C51, §256; R60, §491; C73, §616; C97, §1106; S13, §1106; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §748; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.30]

90 Acts, ch 1238, §17; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

49.31 Arrangement of names on ballot — restrictions.

1. All nominations of any political party or group of petitioners, except as provided in section 49.30, shall be placed under the party name or title of such party or group, as designated by them in their certificates of nomination or petitions, or if none be designated, then under some suitable title, and the ballot shall contain no other names, except as provided in section 49.32.

2. The commissioner shall prepare a list of the election precincts of the county, by arranging the various townships and cities in the county in alphabetical order, and the wards or precincts in each city or township in numerical order under the name of such city or township. The commissioner shall then arrange the surnames of each political party's candidates for each office to which two or more persons are to be elected at large alphabetically for the respective offices for the first precinct on the list; thereafter, for each political party and for each succeeding precinct, the names appearing first for the respective offices in the last preceding precinct shall be placed last, so that the names that were second before the change shall be first after the change. The commissioner may also rotate the names of candidates of a political party in the reverse order of that provided in this subsection or alternate the rotation so that the candidates of different parties shall not be paired as they proceed through the rotation.

[C97, §1106; S13, §1087-a6, 1106; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §758; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.40]

49.41 More than one office prohibited.

A person shall not be a candidate for more than one office to be filled at the same election. A person who has been nominated for more than one office shall file a written notice declaring the office for which the person wishes to appear on the ballot.

If the nomination papers for all offices for which the candidate has been nominated are required to be filed with the same commissioner of elections, the candidate shall file a written notice with that commissioner no later than five p.m. on the final date upon which nomination papers may be filed for the election. The notice shall state the office for which the person wishes to appear on the ballot. If the required notice is not filed, the candidate's name shall not be certified by the state commissioner for any office for which nomination papers are filed with the state commissioner and the county commissioner of elections shall not include the candidate's name on the ballot for any office in any county.

If a person is a candidate for one or more offices for which nomination papers are required to be filed with the state commissioner and one or more offices for which nomination papers are required to be filed with the county commissioner, the candidate shall notify the state commissioner and the county commissioner in writing. The notice shall state the office for which the person chooses to remain a candidate. The notice shall be filed no later than the last day to file nomination papers with the commissioner. If the required notice is not filed, the candidate's name shall not appear on the ballot for any office in any county.

If necessary, the county commissioner shall certify to the state commissioner the name of any person who is a candidate for more than one office which will appear on the ballot for the election. The certification of dual candidacy shall be made no later than five p.m. on the day following the final day to file nomination papers in the office of the commissioner.

When the state commissioner receives notice from the county commissioner that a candidate for a state or federal office has also been nominated for a county or township office, the state commissioner shall amend the certificate issued pursuant to section 43.73 and notify the commissioners of any other counties to whom the candidate's name was originally certified and instruct them to remove the candidate's name from the ballot in those counties.

This section does not apply to the following public offices: county agricultural extension council, soil and water conservation district commission, or regional library board of trustees.

88 Acts, ch 1119, §16; 91 Acts, ch 129, §13

49.42 Form of official ballot.

The ballot for the general election shall be arranged in vertical columns or horizontal rows each of which shall be substantially in the following form:

○ REPUBLICAN	○ DEMOCRATIC	○ PROHIBITION	○ UNION LABOR
(For President, (A.....B....., (of Ohio.	(For President, (N.....O....., (of Indiana.	(For President, (A.....B....., (of Maine.	(For President, (N.....O....., (of Ohio.
☐ (For Vice (President, (C.....D....., (of New York.	☐ (For Vice (President, (P.....Q....., (of Indiana.	☐ (For Vice (President, (C.....D....., (of Illinois.	☐ (For Vice (President, (P.....Q....., (of Ohio.
For United States Senator,	For United States Senator,	For United States Senator,	For United States Senator,
☐ E.....F.....	☐ R.....S.....	☐ E.....F.....	☐ R.....S.....
For United States Representative,	For United States Representative,	For United States Representative,	For United States Representative,
☐ G.....H.....	☐ T.....U.....	☐ G.....H.....	☐ T.....U.....
(For Governor, (I.....J.....	(For Governor, (V.....W.....	(For Governor, (I.....J.....	(For Governor, (V.....W.....
☐ (For Lieutenant (Governor, (K.....L.....	☐ (For Lieutenant (Governor, (X.....Y.....	☐ (For Lieutenant (Governor, (K.....L.....	☐ (For Lieutenant (Governor, (X.....Y.....

[C97, §1106; S13, §1106; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §760; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.42]

90 Acts, ch 1238, §20

49.43 Constitutional amendment or other public measure.

In precincts using paper ballots all public measures to be voted upon by a voter at a given election shall be printed upon one ballot of some color other than white. In precincts using voting machines all public measures shall be placed in the question row on the machine; however, if it is impossible to place all the public measures on the machine ballot, or if only a portion of the registered voters of the precinct are entitled to vote upon any measure presented, the commissioner may provide a separate paper ballot for the public measure or measures.

Constitutional amendments and other public measures may be summarized by the commissioner as provided in section 52.25.

[C97, §1106; S13, §1106; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §761, 762, 767; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §49.43, 49.44; C75, §49.43, 49.49; C77, 79, 81, §49.43]

88 Acts, ch 1119, §17; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

Constitution, Art. X, §1

See also §52.24

49.69 Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.

49.70 Precinct election officials furnished instructions.

The commissioner shall cause copies of the foregoing instructions to be printed in large, clear type, under the heading of "Card of Instructions", and shall furnish the precinct election officials with a sufficient number of such cards as will enable them to comply with section 49.71.

[C97, §1111; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §788; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.70]

49.71 Posting instruction cards and sample ballots.

The precinct election officials, before the opening of the polls, shall cause said cards of instructions to be securely posted as follows:

1. One copy in each voting booth.

2. Not less than four copies, with an equal number of sample ballots, in and about the polling place.

[C97, §1112; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §789; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.71]

Sample primary ballots, §43.30
Sample voting machine ballots, §52.13

49.72 Absentee voters designated before polling place opened.

The commissioner shall deliver to each precinct election board not less than one hour before the time at which the polls are to open for any election the list of all qualified electors of that precinct who have been given or sent an absentee ballot for that election, and the election board shall immediately designate those qualified electors who are so listed and therefore not entitled to vote in person at the polls, as required by section 53.19.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §49.72]

49.73 Time of opening and closing polls.

1. At all elections, except as otherwise permitted by this section, the polls shall be opened at seven o'clock a.m., or as soon thereafter as vacancies on the precinct election board have been filled. On the basis of voter turnout for recent similar elections and factors considered likely to so affect voter turnout for the forthcoming election as to justify shortened voting hours for that election, the commissioner may direct that the polls be opened at twelve o'clock noon for:

a. Any school district election.

b. Any election conducted for a city of three thousand five hundred or less population.

c. Any election conducted for a city of more than three thousand five hundred population if there is no contest for any office on the ballot and no public question is being submitted to the voters at that election.

d. Any election conducted for a benefited district.

2. The commissioner shall not shorten voting hours for any election if there is filed in the commissioner's office, at least twenty-five days before the election, a petition signed by at least fifty eligible electors of the school district or city, as the case may be, requesting that the polls be opened not later than seven o'clock a.m. All polling places where the candidates of or any public question submitted by any one political subdivision are being voted upon shall be opened at the same hour, except that this requirement shall not apply to merged areas established under chapter 260C. The hours at which the respective precinct polling places are to open shall not be changed after publication of the notice required by section 49.53. The polling places shall be closed at nine o'clock p.m. for state primary and general elections and other partisan elections, and for any other election held concurrently therewith, and at eight o'clock p.m. for all other elections.

[C51, §251; R60, §486; C73, §611; C97, §1096, 2751, 2754, 2756; S13, §1087-a6, 1096, 2754, 2756; C24, 27, §565, 791, 4202, 4211; C31, 35, §565, 791, 4216-c9; C39, §565, 791, 4216.09; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §43.37, 49.73, 277.9; C75, 77, 79, 81, §49.73]

94 Acts, ch 1180, §13

49.74 Registered voters entitled to vote after closing time.

Every registered voter who is on the premises of the voter's precinct polling place at the time the polling place is to be closed for any election shall be permitted to vote in that election. Wherever possible, when there are persons on the premises of a polling place awaiting an opportunity to claim their vote at the time the polling place is to be closed, the election board shall cause those persons to move inside the structure in which the polling place is located and shall then shut the doors of the structure and shall not admit any additional persons to the polling place for the purpose of voting. If it is not feasible to cause persons on the premises of a polling place awaiting an opportunity to claim their vote at the time the polling place is to be closed to move inside the structure in which the polling place is located, the election board shall cause those persons to be designated in some reasonable manner and shall not receive votes after that time from any persons except those registered voters so designated.

[C27, 31, 35, §791-a1; C39, §791.1; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.74]

94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

49.75 Oath.

Before opening the polls, each of the board members shall take the following oath: "I, A. B., do solemnly swear or affirm that I will impartially, and to the best of my knowledge and ability, perform the duties of precinct election official of this election, and will studiously endeavor to prevent fraud, deceit, and abuse in conducting the election."

[C51, §249; R60, §484; C73, §609; C97, §1094, 2756; S13, §2756; C24, 27, §792, 4209; C31, 35, §792, 4216-c11; C39, §792, 4216.11; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §49.75, 277.11; C75, 77, 79, 81, §49.75]

89 Acts, ch 136, §42

Counting board oath, §51.5

49.76 How administered.

Any one of the precinct election officials present may administer the oath to the others, and it shall be entered in the election records, subscribed by the person taking it, and certified by the officer administering it.

[C51, §250; R60, §485; C73, §610; C97, §1095; SS15, §1087-a5; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §559, 793; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §43.31, 49.76; C75, 77, 79, 81, §49.76]

49.77 Ballot furnished to voter.

1. The board members of their respective precincts shall have charge of the ballots and furnish them to the voters. Any person desiring to vote shall sign a voter's declaration provided by the officials, in substantially the following form:

VOTER'S DECLARATION
OF ELIGIBILITY

I do solemnly swear or affirm that I am a resident of the ..... precinct, ... ward or township, city of ....., county of ....., Iowa.

I am a registered voter. I have not voted and will not vote in any other precinct in said election.

I understand that any false statement in this declaration is a criminal offense punishable as provided by law.

.....
Signature of Voter

.....
Address

.....
Telephone

Approved:

.....
Board Member

2. One of the precinct election officials shall announce the voter's name aloud for the benefit of any persons present pursuant to section 49.104, subsection 2, 3, or 5. Any of those persons may upon request view the signed declarations of eligibility and may review the signed declarations on file so long as the person does not interfere with the functions of the precinct election officials.

3. A precinct election official shall require any person whose name does not appear on the election register as an active voter to show identification. Specific documents which are acceptable forms of identification shall be prescribed by the state commissioner.

A precinct election official may require of the voter unknown to the official, identification upon which the voter's signature or mark appears. If identification is established to the satisfaction of the precinct election officials, the person may then be allowed to vote.

4. A person whose name does not appear on the election register of the precinct in which that person claims the right to vote shall not be permitted to vote, unless the person affirms that the person is currently registered in the county and presents proof of identity, or the commissioner informs the precinct election officials that an error has occurred and that the person is a registered voter of that precinct. If the commissioner finds no record of the person's registration but the person insists that the person is a registered voter of that precinct, the precinct election officials shall allow the person to cast a ballot in the manner prescribed by section 49.81.

5. The request for the telephone number in the declaration of eligibility in subsection 1 is not mandatory and the failure by the voter to provide the telephone number does not affect the declaration's validity.

[C97, §1114; C24, §794, 795; C27, 31, 35, §718-b20, 794, 795; C39, §718.21, 794, 795; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, §48.21, 49.77, 49.78; C73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.77]

83 Acts, ch 176, §5; 87 Acts, ch 221, §16, 17; 88 Acts, ch 1119, §19; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §50; 94 Acts, ch 1180, §14

49.78 Repealed by 72 Acts, ch 1025, §35.

49.79 Challenges.

Any person offering to vote may be challenged as unqualified by any precinct election official or elector; and it is the duty of each official to challenge any person offering to vote whom the official knows or suspects is not duly qualified. A ballot shall be received from a voter who is challenged, but only in accordance with section 49.81.

[C51, §258; R60, §493; C73, §619; C97, §1115; S13, §1087-a9; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §571, 796; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §43.43, 49.79; C75, 77, 79, 81, §49.79]

49.80 Examination on challenge.

1. When the status of any person as a registered voter is so challenged, the precinct election officials shall explain to the person the qualifications of an elector, and may examine the person under oath touching the person's qualifications as a voter.

2. In case of any challenges of an elector at the time the person is offering to vote in a precinct, a precinct election official may place such person under oath and question the person as, *(a)* where the person maintains the person's home; *(b)* how long the person has maintained the person's home at such place; *(c)* if the person maintains a home at any other location; *(d)* the person's age. The precinct election official may permit the challenger to participate in such questions. The challenged elector shall be allowed to present to the official such evidence and facts as the elector feels sustains the fact that the person is qualified to vote. Upon completion thereof, if the challenge is withdrawn, the elector may cast the vote in the usual manner. If the challenge is not withdrawn, section 49.81 shall apply.

[C51, §259; R60, §494; C73, §620; C97, §1115; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §797; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.80]
90 Acts, ch 1238, §21; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

49.81 Procedure for challenged voter to cast ballot.

1. A prospective voter who is prohibited under section 49.77, subsection 4, or 49.80 from voting except under this section shall be permitted to cast a paper ballot. If a booth meeting the requirement of section 49.25 is not available at that polling place, the precinct election officials shall make alternative arrangements to insure the challenged voter the opportunity to vote in secret. The marked ballot, folded as required by section 49.84, shall be delivered to a precinct election official who shall immediately seal it in an envelope of the type prescribed by subsection 4. The sealed envelope shall be deposited in a special envelope marked "ballots for special precinct" and shall be considered as having been cast in the special precinct established by section 53.20 for purposes of the postelection canvass.

2. Each person who casts a special ballot under this section shall receive a printed statement in substantially the following form:

Your qualifications as a registered voter have been challenged for the following reasons:

I. .....

II. .....

III. .....

Your right to vote will be reviewed by the special precinct counting board on ..... You have the right and are encouraged to make a written statement and submit additional written evidence to this board supporting your qualifications as a registered voter. This written statement and evidence may be given to an election official of this precinct on election day or mailed or delivered to the county commissioner of elections, but must be received prior to noon on ..... at ..... If your ballot is not counted you will receive notification of this fact.

3. Any elector may present written statements or documents, supporting or opposing the counting of any special ballot, to the precinct election officials on election day, until the hour for closing the polls. Any statements or documents so presented shall be delivered to the commissioner when the election supplies are returned.

4. The individual envelopes used for each paper ballot cast pursuant to subsection 1 shall have printed on them the format of the face of the registration form under section 48A.8 and the following:

I believe I am a registered voter of this precinct. I registered to vote in ..... county on or about ..... at ..... My name at that time was ..... I have not moved to a different county since that time. I am a United States citizen, at least eighteen years of age.

.....
(signature of voter) (date)

The following information is to be provided by the precinct election official:
Reason for challenge:
.....
.....

.....
(signature of precinct election official)

[C77, 79, 81, §49.81]
87 Acts, ch 221, §19, 20; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §51, 64

49.82 Voter to receive one ballot — endorsement.
When an empty voting booth is available, one of the precinct election officials shall endorse the official's initials on each ballot the voter will receive. The initials shall be placed so that they may be seen when the ballot is properly folded or enclosed in a secrecy folder. The official shall give the voter one and only one of each of the ballots to be voted at that election in that precinct, except as provided by section 49.100. No ballot without the required official endorsement shall be placed in the ballot box.
[C97, §1116, 1117; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §799; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.82]
94 Acts, ch 1180, §15
Endorsement in primary elections, §43.36

49.83 Names to be marked on election register.
The name of each voter shall be marked on the election register by a precinct election official when the voter's declaration of eligibility has been approved by the officials.
[C51, §260; R60, §495; C73, §621; C97, §1116; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §800; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.83]

49.105 Ordering arrest.

Any precinct election official shall order the arrest of any person who behaves in a noisy, riotous, tumultuous or disorderly manner at or about the polls, so as to disturb the election, or insults or abuses the officials, or commits a breach of the peace, or violates any of the provisions of this chapter. If the person so arrested is a registered voter of the precinct which that polling place serves, and has not yet voted, the person shall be permitted to do so before being removed from the polling place.

[C51, §253; R60, §488; C73, §613; C97, §1128; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §822, 823; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §49.105, 49.106; C75, 77, 79, 81, §49.105]

94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

49.106 Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.

49.107 Prohibited acts on election day.

The following acts, except as specially authorized by law, are prohibited on any election day:

1. Loitering, congregating, electioneering, posting of signs, treating voters, or soliciting votes, during the receiving of the ballots, either on the premises of any polling place or within three hundred feet of any outside door of any building affording access to any room where the polls are held, or of any outside door of any building affording access to any hallway, corridor, stairway, or other means of reaching the room where the polls are held. This subsection shall not apply to the posting of signs on private property not a polling place, except that the placement of a sign on a motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer, or any attachment to a motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer parked on public property within three hundred feet of a polling place, which sign is more than ninety square inches in size, is prohibited.

2. Interrupting, hindering, or opposing any voter while in or approaching the polling place for the purpose of voting.

3. A voter allowing any person to see how the voter's ballot is marked.

4. A false statement by a voter as to the voter's ability to mark a ballot.

5. Interfering or attempting to interfere with a voter when inside the enclosed space, or when marking a ballot.

6. Endeavoring to induce a voter to show how the voter marks, or has marked a ballot.

7. Marking, or causing in any manner to be marked, on any ballot, any character for the purpose of identifying such ballot.

8. Serving as a member of a challenging committee or observer under section 49.104, subsection 2, 5, or 6, by a precinct election official serving at the polls or by an incumbent officeholder of, or a candidate for, an office being voted for at the election in progress.

[C97, §1124, 1134; S13, §1137-a5; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §824; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.107]

86 Acts, ch 1224, §14; 89 Acts, ch 136, §43; 90 Acts, ch 1238, §24; 93 Acts, ch 143, §18

Assisting voter, §49.90
Opposing by challenge, §49.79
Voting mark, §49.92

49.108 Penalty. Repealed by 84 Acts, ch 1067, §51. See §49.119.

49.109 Employees entitled to time to vote.

Any person entitled to vote at an election in this state who does not have three consecutive hours in the period between the time of the opening and the time of the closing of the polls during which the person is not required to be present at work for an employer, is entitled to such time off from work time to vote as will in addition to the person's nonworking time total three consecutive hours during the time the polls are open. Application by any employee for such absence shall be made individually and in writing prior to the date of the election, and the employer shall designate the period of time to be taken. The employee is not liable to any penalty nor shall any deduction be made from the person's regular salary or wages on account of such absence.

[C97, §1123; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §826; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, S81, §49.109; 81 Acts, ch 34, §33]

49.110 Intimidation of employees by employer.

Any employer who shall refuse to an employee the privilege conferred by section 49.109, or shall subject such employee to a penalty or reduction of wages because of the exercise of such privilege, or shall in any manner attempt to influence or control such employee as to how the employee shall vote, by offering any reward, or threatening discharge from employment, or otherwise intimidating or attempting to intimidate such employee from exercising the employee's right to vote, shall be guilty of a simple misdemeanor.

[C97, §1123; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §827; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §49.110]

50.7 Error on county office — township office.

If, in case of such excess, the vote of the precinct where the error occurred would change the result as to a county office if the person appearing to be elected were deprived of so many votes, then the election shall be set aside as to that person in that precinct, and a new election ordered therein; but no person who was not a registered voter in that precinct at the time of the general election shall be allowed to vote at such special election. If the error occurs in relation to an office of a city, school district, township, or of any special district whose elections may be conducted under this chapter, the governing body of the political subdivision involved may order a new election or not, in their discretion.

[C51, §263; R60, §498; C73, §627; C97, §1140; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §846; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.7]

94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

50.8 Error on state or district office — tie vote.

If the error be in relation to a district or state office, it shall be certified with the number of the excess to the state commissioner. If the error affects the result of the election, the canvass shall be suspended and a new vote ordered in the precinct where the error occurred. When there is a tie vote due to such an excess, there shall be a new election. No person who was not a registered voter in that precinct at the time of the general election shall be allowed to vote at such special election. When the new vote is taken and returned, the canvass shall be completed.

[C51, §263; R60, §498; C73, §627; C97, §1140; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §847; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.8]

94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

50.9 Return of ballots not voted.

Ballots not voted, or spoiled by voters while attempting to vote, shall be returned by the precinct election officials to the commissioner, and a receipt taken for the ballots. The ballots shall be preserved for twenty-two months following elections for federal offices and for six months following elections for all other offices.

[C51, §269; R60, §504; C73, §630; C97, §1141; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §848; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.9]

93 Acts, ch 143, §20

50.10 Record of ballots returned.

The commissioner shall enter on the record maintained as required by section 49.65 a notation of the number and character of the ballots returned from each precinct, and the time when and the person by whom they are returned.

[C97, §1141; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §849; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.10]

50.11 Proclamation of result.

When the canvass is completed one of the precinct election officials shall publicly announce the total number of votes received by each of the persons voted for, the office for which the person is designated, as announced by the designated tally keepers, and the number of votes for, and the number of votes against, any proposition which shall have been submitted to a vote of the people, and the precinct election official shall communicate said information by telephone or telegraph or in person to the commissioner who is conducting the election immediately upon completion of the canvass; and the commissioner shall remain on duty until such information is communicated to the commissioner from each polling place in the commissioner's county.

[C97, §1142; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §850; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.11]

50.12 Return and preservation of ballots.

Immediately after making the proclamation, and before separating, the board members of each precinct in which votes have been received by paper ballot shall enclose in an envelope or other container all ballots which have been counted by them, except those endorsed *"Rejected as double"*, *"Defective"*, or *"Objected to"*, and securely seal the envelope. The signatures of all board members of the precinct shall be placed across the seal or the opening of the container so that it cannot be opened without breaking the seal. The precinct election officials shall return all the ballots to the commissioner, who shall carefully preserve them for six months. Ballots from elections for federal offices shall be preserved for twenty-two months.

[C51, §269; R60, §504; C73, §630; C97, §1142; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §851; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.12]

87 Acts, ch 221, §21; 89 Acts, ch 136, §44

50.13 Destruction of ballots.

If, at the expiration of the length of time specified in section 50.12, a contest is not pending, the commissioner, without opening the package in which they have been enclosed, shall destroy the ballots, in the presence of two electors, one from each of the two leading political parties, who shall be designated by the chairperson of the board of supervisors.

If the ballots are to be shredded, the package may be opened, if necessary, but the ballots shall not be examined before shredding. Shredded ballots may be recycled.

[C97, §1143; S13, §1143; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §852; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.13]

89 Acts, ch 136, §45; 91 Acts, ch 129, §14

50.14 Destruction of primary election ballots. Repealed by 89 Acts, ch 136, §75. See §50.12, 50.19.

50.15 Destruction in abeyance pending contest.

If a contest is pending, the ballots shall be kept until the contest is finally determined, and then so destroyed.

[C97, §1143; S13, §1143; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §854; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.15]

50.16 Tally list of board.

The tally list shall be prepared in writing by the election board, giving, in legibly printed numerals, the total number of people who cast ballots in the precinct, the total number of ballots cast for each officer, except those rejected, the name of each person voted for, and the number of votes given to each person for each different office. The tally list shall be signed by the precinct election officials, and be substantially as follows:

At an election at ..... in ..... township, or in ..... precinct of ..... city or township, in ..... county, state of Iowa, on the ..... day of ..... A.D. ....., there were ..... ballots cast for the office of ..... of which
A ..... B ..... had ..... votes.
C ..... D ..... had ..... votes.
(and in the same manner for any other officer).

A true tally list:
L ..... M ..... Election Board
N ..... O ..... Members.
P ..... Q .....
Attest:
R ..... S ..... Designated
T ..... U ..... Tally Keepers.

[C51, §267, 303; R60, §502, 537; C73, §628, 661; C97, §1144; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §855; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.16]
93 Acts, ch 143, §21

50.17 Return of election register.

The precinct election register prepared for each election, together with the ballots to be returned pursuant to section 50.12, if any, and the signed and attested tally list, shall be delivered to the commissioner by one of the precinct election officials by noon of the day following the election.

[C51, §268; R60, §333, 503, 1131; C73, §503, 629; C97, §1145; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §856; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.17]

50.18 Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.

50.19 Preservation and destruction of books.

The commissioner may destroy precinct election registers, the declarations of eligibility signed by voters, and other material pertaining to any election in which federal offices are not on the ballot, except the tally lists, six months after the election if a contest is not pending. If a contest is pending all election materials shall be preserved until final determination of the contest. Before destroying the election registers and declarations of eligibility, the commissioner shall prepare records as necessary to permit compliance with chapter 48A, subchapter V. Nomination papers for primary election candidates for state and county offices shall be destroyed ten days before the general election, if a contest is not pending.

Material pertaining to elections for federal offices, including ballots, precinct election registers, declarations of eligibility signed by voters, documents relating to absentee ballots, and challenges of voters, shall be preserved for twenty-two months after the election. If a contest is not pending the materials may be destroyed at the end of the retention period.

[C51, §268; R60, §333, 503, 1131; C73, §503, 629; C97, §1145; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §858; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.19]

89 Acts, ch 136, §46; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §52

50.20 Notice of number of special ballots.

The commissioner shall compile a list of the number of special ballots cast under section 49.81 in each precinct. The list shall be made available to the public as soon as possible, but in no case later than nine o'clock a.m. on the second day following the election. Any elector may examine the list during normal office hours, and may also examine the affidavit envelopes bearing the ballots of challenged electors until the reconvening of the special precinct board as required by this chapter. Only those persons so permitted by section 53.23, subsection 4, shall have access to the affidavits while that board is in session. Any elector may present written statements or documents, supporting or opposing the counting of any special ballot, at the commissioner's office until the reconvening of the special precinct board.

[C77, 79, 81, §50.20]

87 Acts, ch 221, §22

50.21 Special precinct board reconvened.

The commissioner shall reconvene the election board of the special precinct established by section 53.20 not earlier than noon on the second day following each election which is required by law to be canvassed on the Monday or Tuesday following the election. If the second day following such an election is a legal holiday the special precinct election board may be convened at noon on the day following the election, and if the canvass of the election is scheduled at any time earlier than the Monday following the election, the special precinct election board shall be reconvened at noon on the day following the election.

If no special ballots were cast in the county pursuant to section 49.81 at any election, the special precinct election board need not be so reconvened. If the number of special ballots so cast at any election is not sufficient to require reconvening of the entire election board of the special precinct, the commissioner may reconvene only the number of members required. If the number of special ballots cast at any election exceeds the number of absentee ballots cast, the size of the special precinct election board may be increased at the commissioner's discretion. The commissioner shall observe the requirements of sections 49.12 and 49.13 in making adjustments to the size of the special precinct election board.

[C77, 79, 81, §50.21; 81 Acts, ch 34, §35]

87 Acts, ch 221, §23; 90 Acts, ch 1238, §25

50.22 Special precinct board to determine challenges and canvass absentee ballots.

Upon being reconvened, the special precinct election board shall review the information upon the envelopes bearing the special ballots, and all evidence submitted in support of or opposition to the right of each challenged person to vote in the election. The board may divide itself into panels of not less than three members each in order to hear and determine two or more challenges simultaneously, but each panel shall meet the requirements of section 49.12 as regards political party affiliation of the members of each panel.

The decision to count or reject each ballot shall be made upon the basis of the information given on the envelope containing the special ballot, the evidence concerning the challenge, the registration and the returned receipts of registration.

If a special ballot is rejected, the person casting the ballot shall be notified by the commissioner within ten days of the reason for the rejection, on the form prescribed by the state commissioner pursuant to section 53.25, and the envelope containing the special ballot shall be preserved unopened and disposed of in the same manner as spoiled ballots. The special ballots which are accepted shall be counted in the manner prescribed by section 53.24. The commissioner shall make public the number of special ballots rejected and not counted, at the time of the canvass of the election.

The special precinct board shall also canvass any absentee ballots which were received after the polls closed in accordance with section 53.17. If necessary, they shall reconvene again on the day of the canvass by the board of supervisors to canvass any absentee ballots which were timely received. The special precinct board shall submit their tally list to the supervisors before the conclusion of the canvass by the board.

[C77, 79, 81, §50.22]

87 Acts, ch 221, §24; 88 Acts, ch 1119, §20; 89 Acts, ch 136, §47, 48; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §53

50.23 Messengers for missing tally lists.

The commissioner shall send messengers for all tally lists not received in the commissioner's office by noon of the day following the election. The expense of securing such tally lists shall be paid by the county.

[C51, §270; R60, §505; C73, §634; C97, §1148; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §862; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §50.23]

Mileage paid messengers, §50.47

50.24 Canvass by board of supervisors.

The county board of supervisors shall meet to canvass the vote on the first Monday or Tuesday after the day of each election to which this chapter is applicable, unless the law authorizing the election specifies another date for the canvass. If that Monday or Tuesday is a public holiday, section 4.1, subsection 34 controls. Upon convening, the board shall open and canvass the tally lists and shall prepare abstracts stating, in words written at length, the number of votes cast in the county, or in that portion of the county in which the election was held, for each office and on each question on the ballot for the election. The board shall contact the chairperson of the special precinct board before adjourning and include in the canvass any absentee ballots which were received after the polls closed in accordance with section 53.17 and which were canvassed by the special precinct board after election day. The abstract shall further indicate the name of each person who received votes for each office on the ballot, and the number of votes each person named received for that office, and the number of votes for and against each question submitted to the voters at the election.

The board shall also prepare a certificate showing the total number of people who cast ballots in the election. For general elections and elections held pursuant to section 69.14, a copy of the certificate shall be forwarded to the state commissioner.

Any obvious clerical errors in the tally lists from the precincts shall be corrected by the supervisors. Complete records of any changes shall be recorded in the minutes of the canvass.

[C51, §271, 304, 305; R60, §335, 506, 538, 539, 1131; C73, §502, 503, 631, 635, 662; C97, §1146, 1149; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §859, 860, 863; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §50.20, 50.21, 50.24; C75, 77, 79, 81, §50.24]

84 Acts, ch 1291, §10; 89 Acts, ch 136, §49; 90 Acts, ch 1238, §26; 93 Acts, ch 143, §22

50.25 Abstract of votes in the general election.

At the canvass of the general election, the abstract of the votes for each of the following classes shall be made on a different sheet:

1. President and vice president of the United States.
2. Senator in the Congress of the United States.
3. Representative in the Congress of the United States.
4. Governor and lieutenant governor.

53.41 Records by commissioner — excess requests or ballots.
53.42 Voting in person in commissioner's office.
53.43 Identification on envelope.
53.44 Affidavit to be signed and returned.
53.45 Special absentee ballot.
53.46 Powers and duties of state commissioner.
53.47 Materials furnished by department of general services.
53.48 Postage on ballots.
53.49 Applicable to armed forces and other citizens.
53.50 Appropriation.
53.51 Rule of construction.
53.52 Inconsistent provisions — rule.
53.53 Federal write-in ballots.

53.1 Right to vote — conditions.

Any registered voter may, subject to the provisions of this chapter, vote at any election:

1. When the voter expects to be absent on election day during the time the polls are open from the precinct in which the voter is a registered voter.

2. When, through illness or physical disability, the voter expects to be prevented from going to the polls and voting on election day.

3. When the voter expects to be unable to go to the polls and vote on election day.

A person who has been designated to have power of attorney by a registered voter does not have authority to request or to cast an absentee ballot on behalf of the registered voter.

[SS15, §1137-b; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §927; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.1]

90 Acts, ch 1238, §28; 93 Acts, ch 143, §31; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §65

53.2 Application for ballot.

Any registered voter, under the circumstances specified in section 53.1, may on any day, except election day, and not more than seventy days prior to the date of the election, apply in person for an absentee ballot at the commissioner's office or at any location designated by the commissioner, or make written application to the commissioner for an absentee ballot. The state commissioner shall prescribe a form for absentee ballot applications. However, if a registered voter submits an application that includes all of the information required in this section, the prescribed form is not required.

This section does not require that a written communication mailed to the commissioner's office to request an absentee ballot, or any other document be notarized as a prerequisite to receiving or marking an absentee ballot or returning to the commissioner an absentee ballot which has been voted.

Each application shall contain the name and signature of the registered voter, the address at which the voter is registered to vote, and the name or date of the election for which the absentee ballot is requested, and such other information as may be necessary to determine the correct absentee ballot for the registered voter. If insufficient information has been provided, the commissioner shall, by the best means available, obtain the additional necessary information.

If the application is for a primary election ballot and the request is for a ballot of a party different from that recorded on the registered voter's voter registration record, the requested ballot shall be mailed or given to the applicant together with a "Change or Declaration of Party Affiliation" form as prescribed in section 43.42, to be completed by the registered voter at the time of voting. Upon receipt of the properly completed form, the commissioner shall approve the change or declaration and enter a notation of the change on the registration records.

If an application for an absentee ballot is received from an eligible elector who is not a registered voter the commissioner shall send a registration form under section 48A.8 and an absentee ballot to the eligible elector. If the application is received so late that it is unlikely that the registration form can be returned in time to be effective on election day, the commissioner shall enclose with the absentee ballot a notice to that effect, informing the voter of the registration time limits in section 48A.9. The commissioner shall record on the elector's application that the elector is not currently registered to vote. If the registration form is properly returned by the time provided by section 48A.9, the commissioner shall record on the elector's application the date of receipt of the registration form and enter a notation of the registration on the registration records.

A registered voter who has not moved from the county in which the elector is registered to vote may submit a change of name, telephone number, or address on the form prescribed in section 48A.8 when casting an absentee ballot. Upon receipt of a properly completed form, the commissioner shall enter a notation of the change on the registration records.

[SS15, §1137-c, -d; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §928, 930; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, §53.2, 53.4; C73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.2]

83 Acts, ch 176, §6; 84 Acts, ch 1291, §11; 86 Acts, ch 1224, §28; 87 Acts, ch 221, §25; 91 Acts, ch 129, §17; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §54

53.3 Special absentee ballot. Repealed by 87 Acts, ch 221, §36. See §53.45.

53.4 through 53.6 Reserved.

53.7 Solicitation by public employees.

1. It shall be unlawful for any employee of the state or any employee of a political subdivision to solicit any application or request for application for an absentee ballot, or to take an affidavit in connection with any absentee ballot while the employee is on the employer's premises or otherwise in the course of employment. However, any such employee may take such affidavit in connection with an absentee ballot which is cast by the registered voter in person in the office where such employee is employed in accordance with section 53.11. This subsection shall not apply to any elected official.

2. Any public officer or employee, or any person acting under color of a public officer or employee, who knowingly requires that a public employee solicit an application or request for an application for an absentee ballot, or knowingly requires that an employee take an affidavit or request for an affidavit in connection with an absentee ballot application, commits a serious misdemeanor.

[SS15, §1137-d; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §933; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.7]

91 Acts, ch 129, §18; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

53.8 Ballot mailed.

1. Upon receipt of an application for an absentee ballot and immediately after the absentee ballots are printed, the commissioner shall mail an absentee ballot to the applicant within twenty-four hours, except as otherwise provided in subsection 3. The absentee ballot shall be enclosed in an unsealed envelope bearing a serial number and affidavit. The absentee ballot and unsealed envelope shall be enclosed in or with a carrier envelope which bears the same serial number as the unsealed envelope. The absentee ballot, unsealed envelope, and carrier envelope shall be enclosed in a third envelope to be sent to the registered voter.

2. If an application is received so late that it is unlikely that the absentee ballot can be returned in time to be counted on election day, the commissioner shall enclose with the absentee ballot a statement to that effect. The statement shall also point out that it is possible for the applicant or the applicant's designee to personally deliver the completed absentee ballot to the office of the commissioner at any time before the closing of the polls on election day.

3. When an application for an absentee ballot is received by the commissioner of any county from a registered voter who is a patient in a hospital in that county or a resident of any facility in that county shown to be a health care facility by the list of licenses provided the commissioner under section 135C.29, the absentee ballot shall be delivered to the voter and returned to the commissioner in the manner prescribed by section 53.22. However, if the application is received more than ten calendar days before the election and the commissioner has not elected to mail absentee ballots to the applicant as provided under section 53.22, subsection 3, the commissioner shall mail to the applicant within twenty-four hours a letter in substantially the following form:

Your application for an absentee ballot for the election to be held on ..... has been received. This ballot will be personally delivered to you by a bipartisan team sometime during the ten days preceding the election. If you will not be at the address from which your application was sent during any or all of the ten-day period immediately preceding the election, contact this office and arrangements will be made to have your absentee ballot delivered at a time when you will be present at that address.

Nothing in this subsection nor in section 53.22 shall be construed to prohibit a registered voter who is a hospital patient or resident of a health care facility, or who anticipates entering a hospital or health care facility before the date of a forthcoming election, from casting an absentee ballot in the manner prescribed by section 53.11.

[SS15, §1137-c, -d; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §928, 930; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, §53.2, 53.4; C73, §53.2; C75, 77, 79, 81, §53.8]

83 Acts, ch 176, §7; 84 Acts, ch 1291, §12; 86 Acts, ch 1224, §30; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

53.9 and 53.10 Repealed by 72 Acts, ch 1025, §35.

53.11 Personal delivery of absentee ballot — satellite absentee voting stations.

The commissioner shall deliver an absentee ballot to any registered voter applying in person at the commissioner's office, or at any location designated by the commissioner, not more than forty days before the date of the general election or the primary election, and for all other elections, as soon as the ballot is available. The registered voter shall immediately mark the ballot, enclose and seal it in a ballot envelope, subscribe to the affidavit on the reverse side of the envelope, and return the absentee ballot to the commissioner. The commissioner shall record the numbers appearing on the application and ballot envelope along with the name of the registered voter.

Satellite absentee voting stations shall be established throughout the cities and county at the direction of the commissioner or 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. A petition requesting a satellite absentee voting station must be filed no later than five p.m. on the eleventh day before the election. A satellite absentee voting station established by petition must be open at least one day from eight a.m. until five p.m. 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.

[SS15, §1137-e; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §937; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.11]

84 Acts, ch 1291, §13; 91 Acts, ch 129, §19; 93 Acts, ch 143, §32; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §65

53.12 Duty of commissioner.

The commissioner shall enclose the absentee ballot in an unsealed envelope, to be furnished by the commissioner, which envelope shall bear upon its face the words *"county commissioner of elections"*, the address of the commissioner's office, and the same serial number appearing on the unsealed envelope shall be affixed to the application.

[SS15, §1137-f; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §938; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.12]

84 Acts, ch 1291, §14

53.13 Voter's affidavit on envelope.

On the unsealed envelope shall be printed an affidavit form prescribed by the state commissioner of elections.

[SS15, §1137-f; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §939; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.13]

53.14 Party affiliation.

Said affidavit shall designate the voter's party affiliation only in case the ballot enclosed is a primary election ballot.

[SS15, §1137-f; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §940; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.14]

53.15 Marking ballot.

The registered voter, on receipt of an absentee ballot, shall mark the ballot in such a manner that no other person will know how the ballot is marked.

Registered voters who are blind, cannot read, or because of any other physical disability, are unable to mark their own absentee ballot, may have the assistance of any person the registered voter may select.

[SS15, §1137-g; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §941; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.15]

84 Acts, ch 1291, §15; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

53.16 Subscribing to affidavit.

After marking the ballot, the voter shall make and subscribe to the affidavit on the reverse side of the envelope, and fold the ballot or ballots, separately, so as to conceal the markings on them, and deposit them in the envelope, and securely seal the envelope.

[SS15, §1137-g; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §942; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.16]

84 Acts, ch 1291, §16

53.17 Mailing or delivering ballot.

The sealed envelope containing the absentee ballot shall be enclosed in a carrier envelope which shall be securely sealed. The sealed carrier envelope shall be returned to the commissioner by one of the following methods:

1. The sealed carrier envelope may be delivered by the registered voter or the voter's designee to the commissioner's office no later than the time the polls are closed on election day.

2. The sealed carrier envelope may be mailed to the commissioner. The carrier envelope shall indicate that greater postage than ordinary first class mail may be required. The commissioner shall pay any insufficient postage due on a carrier envelope bearing ordinary first class postage and accept the ballot.

In order for the ballot to be counted, the carrier envelope must be received in the commissioner's office before the polls close on election day or be clearly postmarked by an officially authorized postal service not later than the day before the election and received by the commissioner not later than noon on the Monday following the election.

If the law authorizing the election specifies that the supervisors canvass the votes earlier than the Monday following the election, absentee ballots returned through the mail must be received not later than the time established for the canvass by the board of supervisors for that election. The commissioner shall contact the post office serving the commissioner's office at the latest practicable hour before the canvass by the board of supervisors for that election, and shall arrange for absentee ballots received in that post office but not yet delivered to the commissioner's office to be brought to the commissioner's office before the canvass for that election by the board of supervisors.

[SS15, §1137-g; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §943; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.17; 81 Acts, ch 34, §36]

84 Acts, ch 1291, §17; 87 Acts, ch 221, §26; 90 Acts, ch 1238, §29; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §64; 94 Acts, ch 1180, §22

53.18 Manner of preserving ballot and application.

Upon receipt of the absentee ballot, the commissioner shall at once record the number appearing on the application and return carrier envelope and time of receipt of such ballot and attach the elector's application to the unopened envelope. Absentee ballots shall be stored in a secure place until they are delivered to the absentee and special voters.

[SS15, §1137-h, -i; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §944; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.18]

89 Acts, ch 136, §52; 91 Acts, ch 129, §20

53.19 Listing absentee ballots.

The commissioner shall maintain a list of the absentee ballots provided to registered voters, the serial number appearing on the unsealed envelope, the date the application for the absentee ballot was received, and the date the absentee ballot was sent to the registered voter requesting the absentee ballot.

The commissioner shall provide each precinct election board with a list of all registered voters from that precinct who have received an absentee ballot. The precinct officials shall immediately designate on the election register those registered voters who have received an absentee ballot and are not entitled to vote in person at the polls.

However, any registered voter who has received an absentee ballot and not voted it, may surrender the unmarked absentee ballot to the precinct officials and vote in person at the polls. The precinct officials shall mark the uncast absentee ballot "void" and return it to the commissioner. Any registered voter who has been sent an absentee ballot by mail but for any reason has not received it may appear at the voter's precinct polling place on election day and sign an affidavit to that effect, after which the voter shall be permitted to vote in person. The form of the affidavit for use in such cases shall be prescribed by the state commissioner.

[C71, §53.4; C73, §53.2; C75, 77, 79, 81, §53.19]
94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

53.20 Special precinct established.

There is established in each county a special precinct to be known as the absentee ballot and special voters precinct. Its jurisdiction shall be conterminous with the borders of the county, for the purposes specified by sections 53.22 and 53.23, and the requirement that precincts not cross the boundaries of legislative districts shall not be applicable to it. The commissioner shall draw up an election board panel for the special precinct in the manner prescribed by section 49.15, having due regard for the nature and extent of the duties required of members of the election board and the election officers to be appointed from the panel.

[C77, 79, 81, §53.20]

53.21 Replacement of lost or spoiled absentee ballots.

A voter who has requested an absentee ballot may obtain a replacement ballot if the voter declares that the original ballot was lost or did not arrive. The commissioner upon receipt of a written or oral request for a replacement ballot shall provide a duplicate ballot. The same serial number that was assigned to the records of the original absentee ballot request shall be used on the envelopes and records of the replacement ballot.

The commissioner shall include with the replacement ballot two copies of a statement in substantially the following form:

The absentee ballot which I requested on ..... (date) has been lost or was never received. If I find this absentee ballot I will return it, unvoted, to the commissioner.

.....
(Signature of voter)

.....
(Date)

The voter shall enclose one copy of the above statement in the return carrier envelope with the ballot envelope and retain a copy for the voter's records.

A voter who spoils an absentee ballot may return it to the commissioner. The outside of the return envelope shall be marked "SPOILED BALLOT". The commissioner shall replace the ballot in the manner provided in this section for lost ballots.

An absentee ballot returned to the commissioner without a designation that the ballot was spoiled shall not be replaced.

89 Acts, ch 136, §53; 93 Acts, ch 143, §33

53.22 Balloting by confined persons.

1. *a.* A registered voter who has applied for an absentee ballot, in a manner other than that prescribed by section 53.11, and who is a resident or patient in a health care facility or hospital located in the county to which the application has been submitted shall be delivered the appropriate absentee ballot by two special precinct election officers, one of whom shall be a member of each of the political parties referred to in section 49.13, who shall be appointed by the commissioner from the election board panel for the special precinct established by section 53.20. The special precinct election officers shall be sworn in the manner provided by section 49.75 for election board members, shall receive compensation as provided in section 49.20 and shall perform their duties during the ten calendar days preceding the election and on election day if all ballots requested under section 53.8, subsection 3 have not previously been delivered and returned.

If materials are prepared for the two special precinct election officials, a list shall be made of all voters to whom ballots are to be delivered. The list shall be sent with the officials who deliver the ballots and shall include spaces to indicate whether the person was present at the hospital or health care facility when the officials arrived, whether the person requested assistance from the officials, whether the person was assisted by another person of the voter's choice, the time that the ballot was returned to the officials, and any other notes the officials deem necessary.

The officials shall also be issued a supply of extra ballots to replace spoiled ballots. Receipts shall be issued in substantially the same form as receipts issued to precinct election officials pursuant to section 49.65. All ballots shall be accounted for and shall be returned to the commissioner. Separate envelopes shall be provided for the return of spoiled ballots and unused ballots.

b. If an applicant under this subsection notifies the commissioner that the applicant will not be available at the health care facility or hospital address at any time during the ten-day period immediately prior to the election, but will be available there at some earlier time, the commissioner shall direct the two special precinct election officers to deliver the applicant's ballot at an appropriate time prior to the ten-day period immediately preceding the election. If a person who so requested an absentee ballot has been dismissed from the health care facility or hospital, the special precinct election officers may take the ballot to the voter if the voter is currently residing in the county.

c. The special precinct election officers shall travel together in the same vehicle and both shall be present when an applicant casts an absentee ballot. If either or both of the special precinct election officers fail to appear at the time the duties set forth in this section are to be performed, the commissioner shall at once appoint some other person, giving preference to persons designated by the respective county chairpersons of the political parties described in section 49.13, to carry out the requirements of this section. The persons authorized by this subsection to deliver an absentee ballot to an applicant, if requested, may assist the applicant in filling out the ballot as permitted by section 49.90. After the voter has securely sealed the marked ballot in the envelope provided and has subscribed to the oath, the voted absentee ballots shall be deposited in a sealed container which shall be returned to the commissioner on the same day the ballots are voted. On election day the officers shall return the sealed container by the time the polls are closed.

2. Any registered voter who becomes a patient or resident of a hospital or health care facility in the county where the voter is registered to vote within three days prior to the date of any election or on election day may request an absentee ballot during that period or on election day. As an alternative to the application procedure prescribed by section 53.2, the registered voter may make the request directly to the officers who are delivering and returning absentee ballots under this section. Alternatively, the request may be made by telephone to the office of the commissioner not later than four hours before the close of the polls. If the requester is found to be a registered voter of that county, these officers shall deliver the appropriate absentee ballot to the registered voter in the manner prescribed by this section.

3. For any election except a primary or general election or a special election to fill a vacancy under section 69.14, the commissioner may, as an alternative to subsection 1, mail an absentee ballot to an applicant under this section to be voted and returned to the commissioner in accordance with this chapter. This subsection only applies to applications for absentee ballots from a single health care facility or hospital if there are no more than two applications from that facility or hospital.

4. The commissioner shall mail an absentee ballot to a registered voter who has applied for an absentee ballot and who is a patient or resident of a hospital or health care facility outside the county in which the voter is registered to vote.

5. If the registered voter becomes a patient or resident of a hospital or health care facility outside the county where the voter is registered to vote within three days before the date of any election or on election day, the voter may designate a person to deliver and return the absentee ballot. The designee may be any person the voter chooses except that no candidate for any office to be voted upon for the election for which the ballot is requested may deliver a ballot under this subsection. The request for an absentee ballot may be made by telephone to the office of the commissioner not later than four hours before the close of the polls. If the requester is found to be a registered voter of that county, the ballot shall be delivered by mail or by the person designated by the voter. An application form shall be included with the absentee ballot and shall be signed by the voter and returned with the ballot.

Absentee ballots voted under this subsection shall be delivered to the commissioner no later than the time the polls are closed on election day. If the ballot is returned by mail the carrier envelope must be received by the time the polls close, or clearly postmarked by an officially authorized postal service not later than the day before the election and received by the commissioner no later than the time established for the canvass by the board of supervisors for that election.

[C71, 73, 75, §53.17; C77, 79, 81, §53.22; 81 Acts, ch 34, §37]

84 Acts, ch 1291, §18, 19; 85 Acts, ch 67, §8; 87 Acts, ch 221, §27, 28; 88 Acts, ch 1119, §28; 93 Acts, ch 143, §34; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §65; 94 Acts, ch 1180, §23, 24

53.23 Special precinct election board.

1. The election board of the absentee ballot and special voters precinct shall be appointed by the commissioner in the manner prescribed by sections 49.12 and 49.13, except that the number of precinct election officials appointed to the board shall be sufficient to complete the counting of absentee ballots by ten p.m. on election day.

2. The board's powers and duties shall be the same as those provided in chapter 50 for precinct election officials in regular precinct polling places. However, the election board of the special precinct shall receive from the commissioner and count all absentee ballots for all precincts in the county; when two or more political subdivisions in the county hold elections simultaneously the special precinct election board shall count absentee ballots cast in all of the elections so held. The tally list shall be recorded on forms prescribed by the state commissioner.

3. The commissioner shall set the convening time for the board, allowing a reasonable amount of time to complete counting all absentee ballots by ten p.m. on election day. The commissioner may direct the board to meet on the day prior to the election solely for the purpose of reviewing the absentee voters' affidavits appearing on the sealed ballot envelopes if in the commissioner's judgment this procedure is necessary due to the number of absentee ballots received, but under no circumstances shall a sealed ballot envelope be opened before the board convenes on election day.

4. The room where members of the special precinct election board are engaged in counting absentee ballots during the hours the polls are open shall be policed so as to prevent any person other than those whose presence is authorized by this subsection from obtaining information about the progress of the count. The only persons who may be admitted to that room are the members of the board, one challenger representing each political party, one observer representing any nonparty political organization or any candidate nominated by petition pursuant to chapter 45 or any other nonpartisan candidate in a city or school election appearing on the ballot of the election in progress, and the commissioner or the commissioner's designee. It shall be unlawful for any of these persons to communicate or attempt to communicate, directly or indirectly, information regarding the progress of the count at any time before the polls are closed.

5. The special precinct election board shall preserve the secrecy of all absentee and special ballots. After the affidavits on the envelopes have been reviewed and the qualifications of the persons casting the ballots have been determined, those that have been accepted for counting shall be opened. The ballots shall be removed from the affidavit envelopes without being unfolded or examined, and then shall be thoroughly intermingled, after which they shall be unfolded and tabulated. If secrecy folders or envelopes are used with special paper ballots, the ballots shall be removed from the secrecy folders after the ballots have been intermingled.

6. The special precinct election board shall not release the results of its tabulation on election day until all of the ballots it is required to count on that day have been counted, nor release the tabulation of challenged ballots accepted and counted under chapter 50 until that count has been completed.

[SS15, §1137-j; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §949; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.23]

90 Acts, ch 1238, §30; 92 Acts, ch 1163, §13

53.24 Counties using voting machines.

In counties which provide the special precinct election board with voting machines, the absentee ballot envelopes shall be opened by the board and the ballots shall, without being unfolded, be thoroughly intermingled, after which they shall be unfolded and, under the personal supervision of precinct election officials of each of the political parties, be registered on voting machines the same as if the absent voter had been present and voted in person, except that a tally of the write-in votes may be kept in the tally list rather than on the machine. When two or more political subdivisions in the county are holding separate elections simultaneously, the commissioner may arrange the machine so that the absentee and special ballots for more than one election may be recorded on the same machine.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §950; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.24]

90 Acts, ch 1238, §31

53.25 Rejecting ballot.

In case the absentee voter's affidavit is found to be insufficient, or that the applicant is not a duly registered voter in such precinct, or that the ballot envelope is open, or has been opened and resealed, or that the ballot envelope contains more than one ballot of any one kind, or that said voter has voted in person, such vote shall not be accepted or counted.

If the absentee ballot is rejected prior to the opening of the ballot envelope, the voter casting the ballot shall be notified by a precinct election official by the time the canvass is completed of the reason for the rejection on a form prescribed by the state commissioner of elections.

[SS15, §1137-j; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §951; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.25]

94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

53.26 Rejected ballots — how handled.

Every ballot not counted shall be endorsed on the back thereof "Rejected because (giving reason therefor)." All rejected ballots shall be enclosed and securely sealed in an envelope on which the precinct election officials shall endorse "Defective ballots", with a statement of the precinct in which and the date of the election at which they were cast, signed by the precinct election officials and returned to the same officer and in the same manner as by law provided for the return and preservation of official ballots voted at such election.

[SS15, §1137-j; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §952; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.26]

Return of rejected ballots, §50.5

53.27 Rejection of ballot — return of envelope.

If the ballot is rejected, said ballot envelope, with the affidavit of the voter endorsed thereon, shall be returned with said rejected ballot in the envelope endorsed *"Defective ballots"*.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §953; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.27]

53.28 and 53.29 Repealed by 73 Acts, ch 136, §401.

53.30 Ballot envelope preserved.

The ballot envelope having the qualified elector's affidavit thereon shall be preserved.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §956; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.30]

3. Civilian employees of the United States in all categories serving outside the territorial limits of the several states of the United States and the District of Columbia and their spouses and dependents when residing with or accompanying them, whether or not the employee is subject to the civil service laws and the Classification Act of 1949, and whether or not paid from funds appropriated by the Congress.

4. Members of religious groups or welfare agencies assisting members of the armed forces, who are officially attached to and serving with the armed forces, and their spouses and dependents.

5. Citizens of the United States who do not fall under any of the categories described in subsections 1 to 4, but who are entitled to register and vote pursuant to section 47.4, subsection 3.*

[C54, 58, 62, 66, §53.37; C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, §53.37, 53.49; C81, §53.37]
94 Acts, ch 1180, §25

*Section 47.4 repealed effective January 1, 1995; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §66, 68; corrective legislation pending

53.38 Affidavit constitutes registration.

Whenever a ballot is requested pursuant to section 53.39 or 53.45 on behalf of a voter in the armed forces of the United States, the affidavit upon the ballot envelope of such voter, if the voter is found to be an eligible elector of the county to which the ballot is submitted, shall constitute a sufficient registration under the provisions of chapter 48A and the commissioner shall place the voter's name on the registration record as a registered voter, if it does not already appear there.

[C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.38]
88 Acts, ch 1119, §29; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §55

53.39 Request for ballot — when available.

Section 53.2 does not apply in the case of a registered voter of the state of Iowa serving in the armed forces of the United States. In any such case an application for ballot as provided for in that section is not required and an absent voter's ballot shall be sent or made available to any such registered voter upon a request as provided in this division.

All official ballots to be voted by qualified absent voters in the armed forces of the United States at the primary election and the general election shall be printed prior to forty days before the respective elections and shall be available for transmittal to such registered voters in the armed forces of the United States at least forty days before the respective elections. The provisions of this chapter apply to absent voting by qualified voters in the armed forces of the United States except as modified by the provisions of this division.

[C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §53.39]
89 Acts, ch 136, §54; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §64; 94 Acts, ch 1180, §26

53.40 Request requirements — transmission of ballot.

A request in writing for a ballot may be made by any member of the armed forces of the United States who is or will be a qualified voter on the day of the election at which the ballot is to be cast, at any time before the election. Any member of the armed forces of the United States may request ballots for all elections to be held within a calendar year. The request may be made by using the federal postcard application form and indicating that the applicant wishes to receive ballots for all elections as permitted by state law. The county auditor shall send the applicant a ballot for each election held during the calendar year in which the application is received.

Unless the request specifies otherwise, a request for the primary election shall also be considered a request for the general election. In the case of the general election request may be made not more than seventy days before the election, for and on behalf of a voter in the armed forces of the United States by a spouse, parent, parent-in-law, adult brother, adult sister, or adult child of the voter, residing in the county of the voter's residence. However, a request made by other than the voter may be required to be made on forms prescribed by the state commissioner.

A request shall show the residence (including street address, if any) of the voter, the age of the voter, and length of residence in the city or township, county and state, and shall designate the address to which the ballot is to be sent, and in the case of the primary election, the party affiliation of such voter. Such request shall be made to the commissioner of the county of the voter's residence, provided that if the request is made by the voter to any elective state, city or county official, the said official shall forward it to the commissioner of the county of the voter's residence, and such request so forwarded shall have the same force and effect as if made direct to the commissioner by the voter.

The commissioner shall immediately on the fortieth day prior to the particular election transmit ballots to the voter by mail or otherwise, postage prepaid, as directed by the state commissioner, requests for which are in the commissioner's hands at that time, and thereafter so transmit ballots immediately upon receipt of requests. A request for ballot for the primary election which does not state the party affiliation of the voter making the request is void and of no effect. A request which does not show that the person for whom a ballot is requested will be a qualified voter in the precinct in which the ballot is to be cast on the day of the election for which the ballot is requested, shall not be honored. However, a request which states the age and the city, including street address, if any, or township, and county where the voter resides, and which shows a sufficient period of residence, is sufficient to show that the person is a qualified voter. A request by the voter containing substantially the information required is sufficient.

53.53 Federal write-in ballots.

Upon receipt of an official federal write-in ballot, the commissioner shall examine the voter's written declarations on the envelope. If it appears that the voter is eligible to vote under the provisions of this division, has applied in a timely fashion for an absentee ballot, and has complied with all requirements for the federal write-in ballot, then the federal write-in ballot is valid unless the Iowa absentee ballot is received in time to be counted.

The voter's declaration or affirmation on the federal write-in ballot constitutes a sufficient registration under the provisions of chapter 48A and the commissioner shall place the voter's name on the registration record as a registered voter, if the voter's name does not already appear on the registration record. No witness to the oath is necessary.

Federal write-in absentee ballots may be used in primary and general elections, and in special elections held pursuant to section 69.14. The federal write-in absentee ballot transmission envelope may also serve as an application for voter registration if the information submitted is sufficient to register the person to vote and the applicant is otherwise eligible to vote under the provisions of this division.

The federal write-in ballot shall not be counted if any of the following apply:

1. The ballot was submitted from within the United States.
2. The voter's application for a regular absentee ballot was received by the commissioner less than thirty days prior to the election.
3. The voter's completed regular or special Iowa absentee ballot was received by the deadline for return of absentee ballots established in section 53.17.
4. The voter's federal write-in ballot was received after the deadline for return of absentee ballots established in section 53.17.

88 Acts, ch 1119, §31; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §56; 94 Acts, ch 1180, §30

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Upon issuance of a certificate of dissolution under this section, all ordinances and regulations previously adopted and in force within the districts are of no further force and effect. All contracts previously entered into, to which the district or commissioners are parties, remain in force and effect for the period provided in the contracts. The committee is substituted for the district or commissioners as party to the contracts. The committee is entitled to all benefits and subject to all liabilities under the contracts and has the same right and liability to perform, to require performance, to sue and be sued, and to modify or terminate the contracts by mutual consent or otherwise, as the commissioners of the district would have had.

The committee shall not entertain petitions for the discontinuance of any district nor conduct referenda upon discontinuance petitions nor make determinations pursuant to the petitions in accordance with this chapter, more often than once in five years.

[C39, §2603.12; C46, §160.10; C50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §467A.10]

86 Acts, ch 1245, §652; 87 Acts, ch 23, §21; 89 Acts, ch 106, §3

C93, §161A.10

COUNTY AND DISTRICT FAIRS

174.10 Appropriation — availability.

1. The appropriation which is made biennially for state aid to the foregoing societies shall be available and applicable to incorporated societies of a purely agricultural nature which were entitled to draw eight hundred fifty dollars or more state aid in 1926, or societies located in counties that have no other fair or agricultural society, and which were in existence and drew state aid in 1926, except that in a county where there are two definitely separate county extension offices, two agricultural societies may receive state aid. The provisions of section 174.1 as to ownership of property shall not apply to societies under this section.

2. In counties having two incorporated agricultural societies conducting county fairs, but not having two definitely separate county extension offices, the state aid shall be prorated between the two societies or, if an official county fair is designated by election, shall be paid to that society determined to be conducting the official county fair. The board of supervisors, upon receiving a petition which meets the requirements of section 331.306, shall submit to the qualified electors of the county at the next general election following submission of the petition or at a special election if requested by the petitioners at no cost to the county, the question of which fair shall be designated as the official county fair. Notice of the election shall be given as provided in section 49.53. The fair receiving a majority of the votes cast on the question shall be designated the official county fair. To qualify as the official county fair, the sponsoring society need not meet the conditions provided in subsection 1.

[R60, §1698, 1704; C73, §1110, 1112; C97, §1661; S13, §1659; SS15, §1661-a; C24, 27, §2902; C31, 35, §2902-d1; C39, §2902.1; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, S81, §174.10; 81 Acts, ch 117, §1023]

COUNTY AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION

176A.4 Establishment — body corporate — county agricultural extension districts.

Each county, except Pottawattamie, is constituted and established as a *"county agricultural extension district"* and shall be a public body corporate organized in accordance with the provisions of this chapter for the purposes, with the powers and subject to the restrictions hereinafter set forth. Pottawattamie county shall be divided into and constitute two districts with one district to be known as "East Pottawattamie" which shall include the following townships: Pleasant, Layton, Knox, James, Valley, Lincoln, Washington, Belknap, Center, Wright, Carson, Macedonia, Grove, Waveland; and the other "West Pottawattamie" which shall include the following townships: Rockford, Boomer, Neola, Minden, Hazel Dell, York, Crescent, Norwalk, Lake, Garner, Hardin, Kane, Lewis, Keg Creek, Silver Creek.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §2930; C46, 50, 54, §176.8; C58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §176A.4]

176A.5 County agricultural extension council.

There shall be elected in each extension district an extension council consisting of nine members. Each member of the extension council shall be a resident registered voter of the extension district.

[C58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §176A.5]
90 Acts, ch 1149, §1; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

176A.6 Elections.

An election shall be held biennially at the time of the general election in each extension district for the election of members of the extension council. All qualified electors of the extension district are entitled to vote in the election.

[C58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §176A.6]
90 Acts, ch 1149, §2

176A.7 Terms — meetings.

1. Except as otherwise provided pursuant to law for members elected in 1990, the term of office of an extension council member is four years. The term shall commence on the first day of January following the date of the member's election which is not a Sunday or legal holiday.

2. Each extension council shall meet during the months of January and July each year and at other times during the year as the council determines. The date, time, and place of each meeting shall be fixed by the council.

[C58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §176A.7]
90 Acts, ch 1149, §3

176A.8 Powers and duties of county agricultural extension council.

The extension councils of each extension district of the state shall have, exercise, and perform the following powers and duties:

1. Not reprinted.

2. To and shall each year at the meeting preceding the election of council members, appoint from their own number one member whose term does not expire as of December 31 following the election to act as temporary chairperson of the first meeting of the extension council to be held in January after the election, and one to act as temporary secretary of the meeting.

3. Not reprinted.

4. To cause notice of the date, time, and place of the election to be published as provided in section 331.305 in a newspaper having general circulation in the extension district. The cost of publishing the notice shall be paid by the extension council.

5. To and shall, at least ninety days prior to the date fixed for the election of council members, appoint a nominating committee consisting of four persons who are not council members and designate the chairperson. The membership of the nominating committee shall be gender balanced. The nominating committee shall consider the geographic distribution of potential nominees in nominating one or more resident registered voters of the extension district as candidates for election to each office to be filled at the election. To qualify for the election ballot, each nominee shall file a nominating petition signed by at least twenty-five eligible electors of the district with the county commissioner of elections at least sixty-nine days before the date of election.

The council shall also provide for the nomination by petition of candidates for election to membership on the extension council. A nominating petition shall be signed by at least twenty-five registered voters of the extension district and shall be filed with the county commissioner of elections at least sixty-nine days before the date of the election.

6. to 10. Not reprinted.

11. To fill all vacancies in its membership to serve for the unexpired term of the member creating the vacancy by appointing a resident registered voter of the extension district. However, if an unexpired term in which the vacancy occurs has more than seventy days to run after the date of the next pending election and the vacancy occurs seventy-four or more days before the election, the vacancy shall be filled at the next pending election.

12. To and shall, as soon as possible following the meeting at which the officers are elected, file in the office of the board of supervisors and of the county treasurer a certificate signed by its chairperson and secretary certifying the names, addresses and terms of office of each member, and the names and addresses of the officers of the extension council with the signatures of the officers affixed thereto, and said certificate shall be conclusive as to the organization of the extension district, its extension council, and as to its members and its officers.

13. to 16. Not reprinted.

[S13, §1683-j, -m; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §2930, 2933, 2938; C46, 50, 54, §176.8, 176.11, 176.16; C58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §176A.8]

83 Acts, ch 123, §77, 209; 87 Acts, ch 43, §5; 90 Acts, ch 1149, §4–6; 91 Acts, ch 129, §22; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

176A.10 County agricultural extension education tax.

The extension council of each extension district shall, at a regular or special meeting held in January in each year, estimate the amount of money required to be raised by taxation for financing the county agricultural extension education program authorized in this chapter. The annual tax levy and the amount of money to be raised from the levy for the county agricultural extension education fund shall not exceed the following:

1. *a.* Except as provided in paragraph *"b"*, for an extension district having a population of less than thirty thousand, an annual levy of twenty and one-fourth cents per thousand dollars of the assessed valuation of the taxable property in the district up to a maximum of seventy thousand dollars for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1985, and seventy-five thousand dollars for each subsequent fiscal year.

b. For an extension district having a population of less than thirty thousand and as provided in subsection 6, an annual levy of thirty cents per thousand dollars of the assessed valuation of the taxable property in the district up to a maximum of eighty-seven thousand dollars payable during the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1992, and an increase of six thousand dollars in the amount payable during each subsequent fiscal year.

2. *a.* Except as provided in paragraph *"b"*, for an extension district having a population of thirty thousand or more but less than fifty thousand, an annual levy of twenty and one-fourth cents per thousand dollars of the assessed valuation of the taxable property in the district up to a maximum of eighty-four thousand dollars for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1985, and ninety thousand dollars for each subsequent fiscal year.

275.13 Affidavit — presumption.

Such petition shall be accompanied by an affidavit showing the number of registered voters living in each affected district or portion thereof described in the petition and signed by a registered voter residing in the territory, and if parts of the territory described in the petition are situated in different area education agencies, the affidavit shall show separately as to each agency, the number of registered voters in the part of the agency included in the territory described. The affidavit shall be taken as true unless objections to it are filed on or before the time fixed for filing objections as provided in section 275.14 hereof.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4156; C46, 50, §276.3; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §275.13]

94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

275.18 Special election called — time.

When the boundaries of the territory to be included in a proposed school corporation and the number and method of the election of the school directors of the proposed school corporation have been determined as provided in this chapter, the area education agency administrator with whom the petition is filed shall give written notice of the proposed date of the election to the county commissioner of elections of the county in the proposed school corporation which has the greatest taxable base. The proposed date shall be as soon as possible pursuant to sections 39.2, subsections 1 and 2, and 47.6, subsections 1 and 2, but not later than November 30 of the calendar year prior to the calendar year in which the reorganization will take effect.

The county commissioner of elections shall give notice of the election by one publication in the same newspaper in which previous notices have been published regarding the proposed school reorganization, and in addition, if more than one county is involved, by one publication in a legal newspaper in each county other than that of the first publication. The publication shall be not less than four nor more than twenty days prior to the election. If the decision published pursuant to section 275.15 or 275.16 includes a description of the proposed school corporation and a description of the director districts, if any, the notice for election and the ballot do not need to include these descriptions. Notice for an election shall not be published until the expiration of time for appeal, which shall be the same as that provided in section 275.15 or 275.16, whichever is applicable; and if there is an appeal, not until the appeal has been disposed of.

[R60, §2097, 2105; C73, §1800, 1801; C97, §2794; SS15, §2794, 2794-a; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4142, 4164; C46, 50, §274.24, 275.4, 276.11; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §275.18]

83 Acts, ch 53, §2; 85 Acts, ch 221, §4

275.20 Separate vote in existing districts.

The voters shall vote separately in each existing school district affected and voters residing in the entire existing district are eligible to vote upon the proposition to create a new school corporation and the proposition to levy the voter-approved physical plant and equipment levy under section 298.2, if the petition included a provision for a vote to authorize the levy. If a proposition receives a majority of the votes cast in each of at least seventy-five percent of the districts, and also a majority of the total number of votes cast in all of the districts, the proposition is carried.

[R60, §2097, 2105; C73, §1800, 1801; C97, §2794; SS15, §2794, 2794-a; C24, 27, 31, 35, §4142, 4166, 4167, 4191; C39, §4142, 4144.1, 4166, 4167; C46, 50, §274.24, 274.27, 276.13; C54, §275.20, 275.21; C58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §275.20]

89 Acts, ch 135, §66

275.22 Canvass and return.

The precinct election officials shall count the ballots, and make return to and deposit the ballots with the county commissioner of elections, who shall enter the return of record in the commissioner's office. The election tally lists, including absentee ballots, shall be listed by individual school district. The county commissioner of elections shall certify the results of the election to the area education agency administrator. If the majority of the votes cast by the qualified electors is in favor of the proposition, as provided in section 275.20, a new school corporation shall be organized. If the majority of votes cast is opposed to the proposition, a new petition describing the identical or similar boundaries shall not be filed for at least six months from the date of the election. If territory is excluded from the reorganized district, action pursuant to section 274.37 shall be taken prior to the effective date of reorganization. The secretary of the new school corporation shall file a written description of the boundaries as provided in section 274.4.

[S13, §2820-f; SS15, §2794-a; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4144, 4169; C46, 50, §274.26, 275.5, 275.7, 276.16; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, §275.23; C77, 79, 81, §275.22]

83 Acts, ch 91, §3; 93 Acts, ch 160, §7

275.23 Frequency of change.

A school district which is enlarged, reorganized, or changes its boundaries under sections 275.12 to 275.22, shall not file a petition under section 275.12 for the purpose of reducing the area served or changing the boundaries to exclude areas encompassed by the enlargement, reorganization, or boundary changes for a period of five years following the effective date of the enlargement, reorganization, or boundary change unless the action is approved by the director of the department of education.

[C77, 79, 81, §275.23]

86 Acts, ch 1245, §1463

278.1 Enumeration.

The voters at the regular election shall have power to:

1. Direct a change of textbooks regularly adopted.

2. Direct the sale, lease, or other disposition of any schoolhouse or site or other property belonging to the corporation, and the application to be made of the proceeds thereof, provided, however, that nothing herein shall be construed to prevent the sale, lease, exchange, gift or grant and acceptance of any interest in real or other property by the board of directors without an election to the extent authorized in section 297.22.

3. Determine upon additional branches that shall be taught.

4. Instruct the board that school buildings may or may not be used for meetings of public interest.

5. Direct the transfer of any surplus in the debt service fund, physical plant and equipment levy fund, capital projects funds, or public education and recreation levy fund to the general fund.

6. Authorize the board to obtain, at the expense of the corporation, roads for proper access to its schoolhouses.

7. Authorize a change to either five or seven directors. The proposition for the change shall specify the number of directors to be elected, and which of the methods of election authorized by section 275.12, subsection 2, is to be used if the change is approved by the voters.

8. Authorize the establishment or abandonment of director districts or a change of boundaries of director districts. If a proposition submitted to the voters under this subsection or subsection 7 of this section is rejected, it may not be resubmitted to the voters of the district in substantially the same form within the next three years; if it is approved, no other proposal may be submitted to the voters of the district under this subsection or subsection 7 of this section within the next six years.

9. Change the name of the school district, without affecting its corporate existence, rights, or obligations, and subject to the requirements of section 274.6.

The board may, with approval of sixty percent of the voters, voting in a regular or special election in the school district, make extended time contracts not to exceed twenty years in duration for rental of buildings to supplement existing schoolhouse facilities; and where it is deemed advisable for buildings to be constructed or placed on real estate owned by the school district, these contracts may include lease-purchase option agreements, the amounts to be paid out of the physical plant and equipment levy fund.

Before entering into a rental or lease-purchase option contract, authorized by the electors, the board shall first adopt plans and specifications for a building or buildings which it considers suitable for the intended use and also adopt a form of rental or lease-purchase option contract. The board shall then invite bids thereon, by advertisement published once each week for two consecutive weeks, in a newspaper published in the county in which the building or buildings are to be located, and the rental or lease-purchase option contract shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, but the board may reject any and all bids and advertise for new bids.

[C51, §1115; R60, §2028, 2033; C73, §1717, 1807; C97, §2749; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4217; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §278.1]

89 Acts, ch 135, §71, 72; 94 Acts, ch 1029, §16, 17

1994 amendments to subsection 5 and unnumbered paragraph 2 effective for school budget year beginning July 1, 1995; 94 Acts, ch 1029, §33

279.54 School district income surtax.

If a majority of those voting in an election approves raising the additional enrichment amount for an asbestos project under section 279.53 and this section, not later than April 15 of the previous school year the board shall certify to the department of management that the required procedures have been carried out, the method of funding the amount to be raised, and the department of management shall establish the amount of additional enrichment property tax to be levied or the amount of the combination of the enrichment property tax and the amount of enrichment income surtax to be imposed for each school year for which the additional enrichment amount for an asbestos project is authorized. The enrichment property tax and income surtax, if an income surtax is imposed, shall be levied and imposed, collected, and paid to the school district in the manner provided for the instructional support program in sections 257.21 through 257.26.

Moneys received are miscellaneous income for purposes of chapter 257.

89 Acts, ch 135, §79; 93 Acts, ch 1, §8

Limit on total surtax, §298.14

UNIFORM SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

280.9A History and government required — voter registration.

1. The board of directors of each local public school district and the authorities in charge of each nonpublic school shall require that all students in grades nine through twelve complete, as a condition of graduation, instruction in American history and the governments of Iowa and the United States, including instruction in voting statutes and procedures, voter registration requirements, the use of paper ballots and voting machines in the election process, and the method of acquiring and casting an absentee ballot.

2. At least twice during each school year, the board of directors of each local public school district operating a high school and the authorities in charge of each accredited nonpublic school operating a high school shall offer the opportunity to register to vote to each student who is at least seventeen and one-half years of age, as required by section 48A.23

88 Acts, ch 1129, §1; 90 Acts, ch 1238, §38; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §57

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PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, AND TREASURER OF BOARD

291.13 General and schoolhouse funds.

The money received from the regular and voter-approved physical plant and equipment levies, the levy for public educational and recreational activities imposed under chapter 300, the proceeds of the sale of bonds authorized by law, and the proceeds of a tax estimated and certified by the board for the purpose of paying interest and principal on lawful bonded indebtedness shall be deposited in the schoolhouse fund and, except when authorized by the electors, shall be used only for the purpose for which originally authorized or certified. The money received from the district management levy shall be deposited in a subfund of the general fund of the school district. All other moneys received for any other purpose shall be deposited in the general fund of the school district. The treasurer shall keep a separate account for each fund, and shall not pay an order that fails to state the fund upon which it is drawn and the specific use to which it is to be applied.

[C51, §1139; R60, §2049; C73, §1748; C97, §2768; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4317; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §291.13]

89 Acts, ch 135, §95; 90 Acts, ch 1190, §10

Section will be repealed effective July 1, 1995; 94 Acts, ch 1029, §32, 33

TEACHERS

294.8 Pension system.

Any school district located in whole or in part within a city having a population of twenty-five thousand one hundred or more may establish a pension and annuity retirement system for the public school teachers of such district provided said system, in cities having a population less than seventy-five thousand, be ratified by a vote of the people at a general election.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4345; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §294.8]

CHAPTER 296

INDEBTEDNESS OF SCHOOL CORPORATIONS

296.1 Indebtedness authorized.
296.2 Petition for election.
296.3 Election called.
296.4 Notice — ballots.
296.5 Repealed by 75 Acts, ch 81, §154.
296.6 Bonds.
296.7 Indebtedness for insurance authorized — tax levy.

296.1 Indebtedness authorized.

Subject to the approval of the voters thereof, school districts are hereby authorized to contract indebtedness and to issue general obligation bonds to provide funds to defray the cost of purchasing, building, furnishing, reconstructing, repairing, improving or remodeling a schoolhouse or schoolhouses and additions thereto, gymnasium, stadium, field house, school bus garage, teachers' or superintendent's home or homes, and procuring a site or sites therefor, or purchasing land to add to a site already owned, or procuring and improving a site for an athletic field, or improving a site already owned for an athletic field, and for any one or more of such purposes. Taxes for the payment of said bonds shall be levied in accordance with chapter 76, and said bonds shall mature within a period not exceeding twenty years from date of issue, shall bear interest at a rate or rates not exceeding that permitted by chapter 74A and shall be of such form as the board of directors of such school district shall by resolution provide, but the aggregate indebtedness of any school district shall not exceed five percent of the actual value of the taxable property within said school district, as ascertained by the last preceding state and county tax lists.

[S13, §2820-d1; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4353; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §296.1]

298.18 Bond tax — election — leasing buildings.

The board of each school corporation shall, when estimating and certifying the amount of money required for general purposes, estimate and certify to the board of supervisors of the proper county for the debt service fund the amount required to pay interest due or that may become due for the fiscal year beginning July 1, thereafter upon lawful bonded indebtedness, and in addition thereto such amount as the board may deem necessary to apply on the principal.

The amount estimated and certified to apply on principal and interest for any one year shall not exceed two dollars and seventy cents per thousand dollars of the assessed valuation of the taxable property of the school corporation except as hereinafter provided.

For the sole purpose of computing the amount of bonds which may be issued as a result of the application of any limitation referred to in this section, all interest on the bonds in excess of that accruing in the first twelve months may be excluded from the first annual levy of taxes, so that the need for including more than one year's interest in the first annual levy of taxes to pay the bonds and interest shall not operate to further restrict the amount of bonds which may be issued, and in certifying the annual levies to the county auditor or auditors such first annual levy of taxes shall be sufficient to pay all principal of and interest on said bonds becoming due prior to the next succeeding annual levy and the full amount of such first annual levy shall be entered for collection by said auditor or auditors, as provided in chapter 76.

The amount estimated and certified to apply on principal and interest for any one year may exceed two dollars and seventy cents per thousand dollars of assessed value by the amount approved by the voters of the school corporation, but not exceeding four dollars and five cents per thousand of the assessed value of the taxable property within any school corporation, provided that the qualified voters of such school corporation have first approved such increased amount at a special election, which may be held at the same time as the regular school election. The proposition submitted to the voters at such special election shall be in substantially the following form:

Shall the board of directors of the ..... (insert name of school corporation) in the County of ....., State of Iowa, be authorized to levy annually a tax exceeding two dollars and seventy cents per thousand dollars, but not exceeding ..... dollars and ..... cents per thousand dollars of the assessed value of the taxable property within said school corporation to pay the principal of and interest on bonded indebtedness of said school corporation, it being understood that the approval of this proposition shall not limit the source of payment of the bonds and interest but shall only operate to restrict the amount of bonds which may be issued?

Notice of the election shall be given by the county commissioner of elections according to section 49.53. The election shall be held on a date not less than four nor more than twenty days after the last publication of the notice. At such election the ballot used for the submission of said proposition shall be in substantially the form for submitting special questions at general elections. The county commissioner of elections shall conduct the election pursuant to the provisions of chapters 39 to 53 and certify the results to the board of directors. Such proposition shall not be deemed carried or adopted unless the vote in favor of such proposition is equal to at least sixty percent of the total vote cast for and against said proposition at said election. Whenever such a proposition has been approved by the voters of a school corporation as hereinbefore provided, no further approval of the voters of such school corporation shall be required as a result of any subsequent change in the boundaries of such school corporation.

The voted tax levy referred to herein shall not limit the source of payment of bonds and interest but shall only restrict the amount of bonds which may be issued.

The ability of a school corporation to exceed two dollars and seventy cents per thousand dollars of assessed value to service principal and interest payments on bonded indebtedness is limited and conferred only to those school corporations engaged in the administration of elementary and secondary education.

Provided further that if a school corporation leases a building or property, which has been used as a junior college by such corporation, to a community college, the annual amounts certified as herein provided by such leasing school corporation for payment of interest and principal due on lawful bonded indebtedness incurred by such leasing school corporation for purchasing, building, furnishing, reconstructing, repairing, improving or remodeling the building leased or acquiring or adding to the site of such property leased, to the extent of the respective annual rent the school corporation will receive under such lease, shall not be considered as a part of the total amount estimated and certified for the purposes of determining if such amount exceeds any limitation contained in this section.

[C73, §1823; C97, § 2813; S13, §2813; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4403; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §298.18]

90 Acts, ch 1253, §109; 94 Acts, ch 1029, §28

Maturity and payment of bonds, ch 76

1994 amendment to unnumbered paragrpah 1 effective for school budget year beginning July 1, 1995; 94 Acts, ch 1029, §33

298.21 School bonds.

The board of directors of any school corporation when authorized by the voters at the regular election or at a special election called for that purpose, may issue the negotiable, interest-bearing school bonds of said corporation for borrowing money for any or all of the following purposes:

1. To acquire sites for school purposes.
2. To erect, complete, or improve buildings authorized for school purposes.
3. To acquire equipment for schools, sites, and buildings.

[S13, §2812-d; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4406; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §298.21]

Vote required to authorize bonds, §75.1

EDUCATIONAL AND RECREATIONAL TAX

300.2 Tax levy.

The board of directors of a school district may, and upon receipt of a petition signed by eligible electors equal in number to at least twenty-five percent of the number of voters at the last preceding school election, shall, direct the county commissioner of elections to submit to the qualified electors of the school district the question of whether to levy a tax of not to exceed thirteen and one-half cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation for public educational and recreational activities authorized under this chapter. If at the time of filing the petition, it is more than three months until the next regular school election, the board of directors shall submit the question at a special election within sixty days. Otherwise, the question shall be submitted at the next regular school election.

If a majority of the votes cast upon the proposition is in favor of the proposition, the board shall certify the amount required for a fiscal year to the county board of supervisors by April 15 of the preceding fiscal year. The board of supervisors shall levy the amount certified. The amount shall be placed in the public education and recreation levy fund of the district and shall be used only for the purposes specified in this chapter.

The proposition to levy the public recreation and playground tax is not affected by a change in the boundaries of a school district, except as otherwise provided in this section. If each district involved in school reorganization under chapter 275 has adopted the public recreation and playground tax, and if the voters have not voted upon the proposition to levy the public recreation and playground tax in the reorganized district, the existing public recreation and playground tax shall be in effect for the reorganized district for the least amount that has been approved in any of the districts and until discontinued pursuant to section 300.3.

[S13, §2823-u1, -u2; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4434, 4435; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §300.2, 300.3; 81 Acts, ch 95, §3]

93 Acts, ch 1, §13; 93 Acts, ch 160, §17; 94 Acts, ch 1029, §29

1994 amendment to unnumbered paragraph 2 effective for school budget year beginning July 1, 1995; 94 Acts, ch 1029, §33

300.3 Discontinuance of levy.

Once approved at an election, the authority of the board to levy and collect the tax under section 300.2 shall continue until the board votes to rescind the levy and collection of the tax or the voters of the school district by majority vote order the discontinuance of the levy and collection of the tax. The tax shall be discontinued in the manner provided in this section or in the manner provided for imposition of the tax in section 300.2.

[S13, §2823-u4, -u5; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4437, 4438; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §300.5, 300.6; 81 Acts, ch 95, §4]

300.4 Community education.

The tax levied under sections 300.2 and 300.3 may also be used for community education purposes under chapter 276.

[81 Acts, ch 95, §5]

TEXTBOOKS

301.24 Petition — election.

Whenever a petition signed by ten percent of the qualified voters, to be determined by the school board of any school district, shall be filed with the secretary thirty days or more before the regular election, asking that the question of providing free textbooks for the use of pupils in the public schools thereof be submitted to the voters at the next regular election, the secretary shall cause notice of such proposition to be given in the notice of such election.

[C97, §2836; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4464; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §301.24]

301.25 Loaning books.

If, at such election, a majority of the legal voters present and voting by ballot thereon shall authorize the board of directors of said school district to loan textbooks to the pupils free of charge, then the board shall procure such books as shall be needed, in the manner provided by law for the purchase of textbooks, and loan them to the pupils.

[C97, §2837; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4465; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §301.25]

301.27 Discontinuance of loaning.

The electors may, at any election called as provided in section 301.24, direct the board to discontinue the loaning of textbooks to pupils.

[C97, §2837; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §4467; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §301.27]

DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION DISTRICTS

303.20 Definitions.

As used in this subchapter of this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

1. *"Area of historical significance"* means contiguous pieces of property of no greater area than one hundred sixty acres under diverse ownership which:

a. Are significant in American history, architecture, archaeology and culture, and

b. Possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, skill, feeling and association, and

c. Are associated with events that have been a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history, or

d. Are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past, or

e. Embody the distinctive characteristics of a type; period; method of construction; represent the work of a master; possess high artistic values; represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.

f. Have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

2. *"Commission"* is the five-person body, elected by the qualified electors in the historical preservation district from persons living in the district for the purpose of administering this subchapter of this chapter.

3. *"District"* means a historical preservation district established under this subchapter of this chapter.

4. *"Department"* means the department of cultural affairs.

5. *"Exterior features"* means the architectural style, general design and general arrangement of the exterior of a building or other structure, including the kind and texture of the building material and the type and style of all windows, doors, light fixtures, signs and other appurtenant fixtures. In the case of an outdoor advertising sign, *"exterior features"* means the style, material, size and location of the sign.

6. *"Property owner"* means an individual or corporation who is the owner of real estate for taxation purposes.

[C77, 79, 81, §303.20; 82 Acts, ch 1238, §14]

86 Acts, ch 1245, §1315

BLANK

303.21 Petition.

Not less than ten percent of the eligible voters in an area of asserted historical significance may petition the department for a referendum for the establishment of a district.

The petition shall contain a description of the property suggested for inclusion in the district, the reasons justifying the creation of the district.

[C77, 79, 81, §303.21; 82 Acts, ch 1238, §15]

303.22 Action by department.

The department shall hold a hearing not less than thirty days or more than sixty days after the petition is received. The department shall publish notice of the hearing, at a reasonable time before the hearing is to take place, and shall post notice of the hearing in a reasonable number of places within the suggested district. The cost of notification shall be paid by the persons who petition for the establishment of a district.

At the hearing the department shall hear interested persons, accept written presentations, and shall determine whether the suggested district is an area of historical significance which may properly be established as a historical preservation district pursuant to the provisions of this subchapter of this chapter. The department may determine the boundaries which shall be established for the district. The department shall not include property which is not included in the suggested district unless the owner of the property is given an opportunity to be heard.

The department, if it determines that the suggested district meets the criteria for establishment as a historical preservation district, shall indicate the owners of the property and residents included and shall forward a list of owners and residents to the county commissioner of elections.

If the department determines that the suggested district does not meet the criteria for establishment as a historical preservation district, it shall so notify the petitioners.

[C77, 79, 81, §303.22; 82 Acts, ch 1238, §16]

303.23 Referendum.

Within thirty days after the receipt of the list of owners of property and residents within the suggested historical preservation district, the department shall fix a date not more than forty-five days from the receipt of the petition seeking a referendum on the question of establishment of a historical preservation district. The department, after consultation with the county commissioner of elections, shall specify the polling place within the suggested district that will best serve the convenience of the voters and shall appoint from residents of the proposed district three judges and two clerks of election.

[C77, 79, 81, §303.23; 82 Acts, ch 1238, §17]

303.24 Notice.

The department, after consultation with the county commissioner of elections, shall post notice of the referendum in a reasonable number of places within the suggested district a reasonable time before it is to take place. The notice shall state the purpose of the referendum, a description of the district, the date of the referendum, the location of the polling place, and the hours when the polls will open and close.

[C77, 79, 81, §303.24; 82 Acts, ch 1238, §18]

303.25 Voting.

A person shall be qualified to vote at the referendum if such person is a registered voter of the area embraced by the proposed historic district.

An historic preservation district is established if a majority of the persons voting at the referendum votes in favor of its establishment.

[C77, 79, 81, §303.25]
94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

303.26 Commission.

At the same time the referendum is held, an election shall be held for the commission. Each voter at the referendum may write upon the ballot the names of not more than five persons who are eligible voters within the district to be members of the commission.

The five persons receiving the highest number of votes shall constitute the commission. In the event one of the five receiving the highest number of votes elects not to serve on the commission, the person receiving the next highest number of votes shall serve.

Of the initial commission the person receiving the highest number of votes shall receive a five-year term of office, the next highest a four-year term, the next highest a three-year term, the next highest a two-year term, and the fifth highest a one-year term. Thereafter, an election shall be held annually in the district to elect a member to a five-year term as each term expires.

Vacancies in the commission occurring between elections shall be filled by the remaining members of the commission by majority vote. Should a majority of those voting vote not to establish the district, the election shall be void.

[C77, 79, 81, §303.26]

303.33 Termination of district.

Two years after the establishment of a district, a referendum for the termination of the district shall be held if ten percent of the eligible voters in the district so request. If the qualified electors, by a majority of those voting, favor termination, this Act* will no longer have any effect on the property formerly included in the district.

If an election is held to terminate a district under this section and such attempt fails, another referendum for termination of the district in question shall not take place for a period of two years.

[C77, 79, 81, §303.33]

*See 76 Acts, ch 1159, §14

LAND USE DISTRICTS

303.41 Eligibility and purpose.

A land use district shall not be created under this subchapter unless it is an area of contiguous territory encompassing twenty thousand acres or more of predominately rural and agricultural land owned by a single entity which has within its general boundaries at least seven platted villages which are not incorporated as municipalities at the time the district is organized. The eligible electors may create a land use district to conserve the distinctive historical and cultural character and peculiar suitability of the area for particular uses with a view to conserving the value of all existing and proposed structures and land and to preserve the quality of life of those citizens residing within the boundaries of the contiguous area by preserving its historical and cultural quality.

83 Acts, ch 108, §1

303.42 Petition.

Ten percent or more of the qualified voters residing within the limits of a proposed land use district may file a petition in the office of the county auditor of the county in which the proposed land use district, or its major portion, is located, requesting that there be submitted to the qualified voters of the proposed district the question of whether the territory within the boundaries of the proposed district shall be organized as a land use district under this subchapter. The petition shall be addressed to the board of supervisors of the county where it is filed and shall set forth the following:

1. An intelligible description of the boundaries of the territory to be embraced in the district.
2. The name of the proposed district.
3. That the territory to be embraced in the district has a distinctive historical and cultural character which might be preserved by the establishment of the district.
4. That the public welfare will be promoted by the establishment of the district.
5. The signatures of the petitioners.

83 Acts, ch 108, §2

303.45 Hearing of petition and order.

The board of supervisors to whom the petition is addressed shall preside at the hearing provided for in section 303.44 and shall continue the hearing in session, with adjournments from day to day, if necessary, until completed, without being required to give any further notice of it. Proof of the residence and qualification of the petitioners as qualified voters shall be made by affidavit or otherwise as the board may direct. The board shall consider the boundaries of the proposed land use district, whether they shall be as described in the petition or otherwise, and for that purpose may alter and amend the petition and limit or change the boundaries of the proposed district as stated in the petition. The boundaries of a proposed district shall not be changed to include property not included in the original petition and published notice until the owner of that property is given notice as on the original hearing. All persons in the proposed district shall have an opportunity to be heard regarding the location and boundaries of the proposed district and to make suggestions regarding them. The board of supervisors, after hearing the statements, evidence, and suggestions made and offered at the hearing, shall enter an order fixing the boundaries of the proposed district and directing that an election be held for the purpose of submitting to the qualified voters residing within the boundaries of the proposed district the question of organization and establishment of the proposed land use district as determined by the board of supervisors. The order shall fix a date for the election not more than sixty days after the date of the order, establish voting precincts within the proposed district and define their boundaries, and specify the polling places which in the board's judgment will best serve the convenience of the voters, and shall appoint from residents of the proposed district three judges and two clerks of election for each voting precinct established.

83 Acts, ch 108, §5

303.46 Notice of election.

In its order for the election the board of supervisors shall direct the county auditor to cause notice of the election to be given by posting at least five copies of the notice in public places in the proposed district at least twenty days before the date of election and by publication of the notice once each week for three consecutive weeks in some newspaper of general circulation published in the proposed district, or, if no such newspaper is published within the proposed district, then in such a newspaper published in the county in which the major part of the proposed district is located. The last publication is to be at least twenty days prior to the date of election. The notice shall state the time and place of holding the election and the hours when the polls will be open and closed, the purpose of the election, with the name of the proposed district and a description of its boundaries, and shall set forth briefly the limits of each voting precinct and the location of the polling places. Proof of posting and publication shall be made in the manner provided in section 303.44 and filed with the county auditor.

83 Acts, ch 108, §6

303.47 Election.

Each qualified voter residing within the proposed district may cast a ballot at the election and a person shall not vote in any precinct but that of the person's residence. Ballots at the election shall be in substantially the following form:

For Land Use District .....
Against Land Use District .....

The election shall be conducted in the manner provided by law for general elections and the ballots so cast shall be issued, received, returned, and canvassed in the same manner and by the same officers, in the county whose board of supervisors is vested with jurisdiction of the proceedings, as provided by law in the case of ballots cast for county officers, except as modified by this subchapter. The board of supervisors shall cause a statement of the result of the election to be spread upon the records of the county auditor. If a majority of the votes cast upon the question of incorporation of the proposed district is in favor of the proposed district, the proposed district becomes an organized district under this subchapter.

83 Acts, ch 108, §7

303.48 Expenses and costs of election.

All expenses incurred in carrying out sections 303.41 through 303.47, including the costs of the election, as determined by the board of supervisors, shall be paid by the county whose board is vested with jurisdiction of the proceedings.

83 Acts, ch 108, §8

303.49 Election of trustees — terms — vacancies.

1. If the proposition to establish a land use district carries, a special election shall be called by the board of supervisors of the county which conducted the election to form the district. This special election shall be held within the newly created district at a single polling place designated by the county auditor not more than ninety days after the organization of the land use district. The election shall be held for the purpose of electing the initial seven members of the board of trustees of the land use district. The county auditor shall cause notice of the election to be posted and published, and shall perform all other acts with reference to the election, and conduct it in like manner, as nearly as may be, as provided in this subchapter for the election on the question of establishing the district. Each trustee must be a United States citizen not less than eighteen years of age and a resident of the district. Each registered voter at the election may write in upon the ballot the names of not more than seven persons whom the voter desires for trustees and may cast not more than one vote for each of the seven persons. The seven persons receiving the highest number of votes cast shall constitute the first board of trustees of the district.

2. Following the initial special election, an annual election shall be held on the second Tuesday of each September at a single polling place within the district designated by the county auditor for the purpose of electing a trustee to replace a trustee whose term will expire. The county auditor shall perform all other acts with reference to the election and conduct it in like manner, as nearly as may be, as provided in chapters 45 and 49. Each registered voter at the election may vote for one person whom the voter desires as a trustee for each expiring term. The term of office for each trustee elected shall be three years.

3. Vacancies in the office of trustee of a land use district shall be filled by the remaining members of the board of trustees for the period extending to the second Tuesday in September at which time the registered voters of the district shall elect a new trustee to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term. Expenses incurred in carrying out the annual elections of trustees shall be paid for by the land use district.

4. When the initial board of trustees is elected under this section the trustees shall be ranked in the order of votes received from highest to lowest. Any ties shall be resolved by a random method. The last ranked trustee shall receive an initial term expiring at the next annual election for trustees in September, the sixth and fifth ranked trustees receive an initial term expiring one year later, the fourth ranked trustee receives an initial term expiring two years after that election, the third and second ranked trustees receive initial terms expiring three years after that election, and the first ranked trustee shall receive an initial term expiring four years after that election.

83 Acts, ch 108, §9; 85 Acts, ch 161, §1; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

13. *"Resolution"* or *"motion"* means a statement of policy or an order for action to be taken.

14. *"Sheriff"* means the county sheriff or a deputy sheriff designated by the sheriff.

15. *"State law"* includes the Constitution of the state of Iowa and state statutes.

16. *"Supervisor"* means a member of the board of supervisors.

17. *"Treasurer"* means the county treasurer or a deputy treasurer or employee designated by the county treasurer.

[C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §343.13; S81, §331.101; 81 Acts, ch 117, §100]

88 Acts, ch 1229, §2; 90 Acts, ch 1233, §23

ALTERNATIVE FORMS OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

331.201 Board membership — qualifications — term.

1. The board shall consist of three members unless the membership is increased to five as provided in section 331.203.

2. A supervisor must be a registered voter of the county or supervisor district of the county which the supervisor represents.

3. The office of supervisor is an elective office except that if a vacancy occurs on the board, a successor shall be appointed to the unexpired term as provided in chapter 69.

4. The term of office of a supervisor is four years unless a change in the supervisor district representation plan or in the number of supervisors on the board requires the election of one or two supervisors for an initial term of two years.

[R60, §303; C73, §294, 299; C97, §410; SS15, §410; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5106; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §331.1; S81, §331.201; 81 Acts, ch 117, §200]

94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

331.203 Membership increased — vote.

1. The board may by resolution, or shall upon petition of the number of eligible electors of the county as specified in section 331.306, submit to the qualified electors of the county at a general election a proposition to increase the number of supervisors to five.

2. If a majority of the votes cast on the proposition is in favor of the increase to five members, the board shall be increased to five members effective on the first day in January which is not a Sunday or holiday following the next general election. The five-member board shall be elected according to the supervisor representation plan in effect in the county.

a. If plan "one" as defined in section 331.206 is in effect, two additional supervisors shall be elected at the next general election, one for a two-year term and one for a four-year term.

b. If plan "two" or plan "three" as defined in section 331.206 is in effect, the temporary county redistricting commission shall divide the county into five equal-population districts by December 15 of the year preceding the year of the next general election and at that general election, five board members shall be elected, two for initial terms of two years and three for four-year terms. The districts shall be drawn in the manner provided under sections 331.209 and 331.210. The terms of the three incumbent supervisors shall expire on the date that the five-member board becomes effective.

c. The length of term for which a person is a candidate and the date when the term begins shall be indicated on the ballot.

[R60, §303; C73, §294, 299; C97, §410; SS15, §410; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5107; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §331.2; S81, §331.203; 81 Acts, ch 117, §202; 82 Acts, ch 1091, §2, ch 1104, §29]

88 Acts, ch 1119, §35; 94 Acts, ch 1179, §19

331.204 Membership reduced — vote — new members.

1. In a county having a five-member board, the board may by resolution, or shall upon petition of the number of eligible electors of the county as specified in section 331.306, submit to the qualified electors of the county at a general election a proposition to reduce the number of supervisors to three.

2. If a majority of the votes cast on the proposition is in favor of the reduction to three members, the membership of the board shall remain at five until the first day in January which is not a Sunday or holiday following the next general election, at which time the terms of the five members shall expire.

3. At the next general election following the one at which the proposition to reduce the membership of the board to three is approved, the membership of the board shall be elected according to the supervisor representation plan in effect in the county. If the supervisor representation plan includes equal-population districts, the districts shall be designated by December 15 of the year preceding the year of the next general election by the temporary county redistricting commission. The districts shall be drawn in the manner provided under sections 331.209 and 331.210. One member of the board shall be elected to a two-year term and the remaining two members shall be elected to four-year terms. The length of the term for which a person is a candidate and the date when the term begins shall be indicated on the ballot.

[C73, §299; C97, §410; SS15, §410; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5108–5110; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §331.3, 331.6, 331.7; S81, §331.204; 81 Acts, ch 117, §203; 82 Acts, ch 1091, §3, ch 1104, §30]

88 Acts, ch 1119, §36; 94 Acts, ch 1179, §20

e. The governing body may authorize a loan agreement payable from the net revenues of a county enterprise or combined county enterprise by following the authorization procedures of section 331.464.

f. A loan agreement to which a county is a party or in which a county has a participatory interest is an obligation of a political subdivision of this state for the purpose of chapters 502 and 636, and is a lawful investment for banks, trust companies, building and loan associations, savings and loan associations, investment companies, insurance companies, insurance associations, executors, guardians, trustees, and any other fiduciaries responsible for the investment of funds.

83 Acts, ch 96, §157, 159; 84 Acts, ch 1123, §2; 87 Acts, ch 103, §1; 92 Acts, ch 1138, §2

1992 amendment to subsection 3 applicable to loan agreements entered into on or after July 1, 1993; 92 Acts, ch 1138, §7

COUNTY LEVIES, FUNDS, BUDGETS, AND EXPENDITURES

331.424 Supplemental levies.

To the extent that the basic levies are insufficient to meet the county's needs for the following services, the board may certify supplemental levies as follows:

1. For general county services, an amount sufficient to pay the charges for the following:

a. to *h.* Not reprinted.

i. Elections, and voter registration pursuant to chapter 48A.

j. to *p.* Not reprinted.

2. Not reprinted.

83 Acts, ch 123, §8, 209; 84 Acts, ch 1178, §7; 84 Acts, ch 1312, §8; 86 Acts, ch 1211, §20; 90 Acts, ch 1233, §25; 92 Acts, ch 1139, §26; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §59; 94 Acts, ch 1170, §52

331.425 Additions to levies — special levy election.

The board may certify an addition to a levy in excess of the amounts otherwise permitted under sections 331.423, 331.424, and 331.426 if the proposition to certify an addition to a levy has been submitted at a special levy election and received a favorable majority of the votes cast on the proposition. A special levy election is subject to the following:

1. The election shall be held only if the board gives notice to the county commissioner of elections, not later than February 15, that the election is to be held.

2. The election shall be held on the second Tuesday in March and be conducted by the county commissioner of elections in accordance with the law.

3. The proposition to be submitted shall be substantially in the following form:

Vote for only one of the following:
Shall the county of ..... levy an additional tax at a rate of $..... each year for ..... years beginning next July 1 in excess of the statutory limits otherwise applicable for the (general county services or rural county services) fund?

or

The county of ..... shall continue the (general county services or rural county services fund) under the maximum rate of $ .....

4. The canvass shall be held beginning at one o'clock on the second day which is not a holiday following the special levy election.

5. Notice of the proposed special levy election shall be published at least twice in a newspaper as specified in section 331.305 prior to the date of the special levy election. The first notice shall appear as early as practicable after the board has decided to seek a special levy.

83 Acts, ch 123, §9, 209

331.427 General fund.

1. Not reprinted.

2. The board may make appropriations from the general fund for general county services, including but not limited to the following:

a. and *b.* Not reprinted.

c. Purchase of voting machines under chapter 52.

d. to *l.* Not reprinted.

3. Not reprinted.

83 Acts, ch 123, §11, 209; 84 Acts, ch 1107, §1; 84 Acts, ch 1206, §1; 85 Acts, ch 195, §40; 85 Acts, ch 201, §2; 89 Acts, ch 83, §48; 90 Acts, ch 1230, §90; 90 Acts, ch 1236, §47; 91 Acts, ch 191, §8; 92 Acts, ch 1139, §27; 94 Acts, ch 1074, §3

GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS

331.441 Definitions.

1. As used in this part, the use of the conjunctive *"and"* includes the disjunctive *"or"* and the use of the disjunctive *"or"* includes the conjunctive *"and,"* unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

2. As used in this part, unless the context otherwise requires:

a. "General obligation bond" means a negotiable bond issued by a county and payable from the levy of ad valorem taxes on all taxable property within the county through its debt service fund which is required to be established by section 331.430.

b. "Essential county purpose" means any of the following:

(1) Voting machines or an electronic voting system.

(2) Bridges on highways or parts of highways which are located along the corporate limits of cities and are partly within and partly without the limits and are in whole or in part secondary roads.

6. The title of a commission shall be appropriate to the county enterprise or combined county enterprise administered by the commission. A commission may be a party to legal action. A commission may exercise all powers of the board in relation to the county enterprise or combined county enterprise it administers, with the following exceptions:

a. A commission shall not certify taxes to be levied, pass ordinances or amendments, or issue general obligation bonds.

b. The title to all property of a county enterprise or combined county enterprise shall be held in the name of the county, but the commission has all the powers and authorities of the board with respect to the acquisition by purchase, condemnation or otherwise, lease, sale or other disposition of the property, and the management, control and operation of the property, subject to the requirements, terms, covenants, conditions and provisions of any resolutions authorizing the issuance of revenue bonds, pledge orders, or other obligations which are payable from the revenues of the county enterprise or combined county enterprise, and which are then outstanding.

c. A commission shall make to the board a detailed annual report, including a complete financial statement.

d. Immediately following a regular or special meeting of a commission, the secretary of the commission shall prepare a condensed statement of the proceedings of the commission and cause the statement to be published as provided in section 331.305. The statement shall include a list of all claims allowed, showing the name of the person or firm making the claim, the reason for the claim, and the amount of the claim. Salary claims must show the gross amount of the claim except that salaries paid to persons regularly employed by the commission, for services regularly performed by the persons shall be published once annually showing the gross amount of the salary. In counties having more than one hundred fifty thousand population the commission shall each month prepare in pamphlet form the statement required in this paragraph for the preceding month, and furnish copies to the public library, the daily and official newspapers of the county, the auditor, and to persons who apply at the office of the secretary, and the pamphlet shall constitute publication as required. Failure by the secretary to make publication is a simple misdemeanor.

7. A commission shall control tax revenues allocated to the county enterprise or combined county enterprise it administers and all moneys derived from the operation of the county enterprise or combined county enterprise, the sale of its property, interest on investments, or from any other source related to the county enterprise or combined county enterprise.

8. All moneys received by the commission shall be held by the county treasurer in a separate fund, with a separate account or accounts for each county enterprise or combined county enterprise. Moneys may be paid out of each account only at the direction of the appropriate commission.

9. A commission is subject to section 331.341, subsections 1, 2, 4 and 5, and section 331.342, in contracting for public improvements.

[S81, §331.471; 81 Acts, ch 117, §470]

83 Acts, ch 42, §1

COUNTY AUDITOR

331.501 Office of county auditor.

1. The office of auditor is an elective office except that if a vacancy occurs in the office, a successor shall be appointed to the unexpired term as provided in chapter 69.

2. A person elected or appointed to the office of auditor shall qualify by taking the oath of office as provided in section 63.10 and giving bond as provided in section 64.8.

3. The term of office of the auditor is four years.

[C73, §589; C97, S13, §1072; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §520; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §39.17; S81, §331.501; 81 Acts, ch 117, §500]

331.502 General duties.

The auditor shall:

1. to 18. Not reprinted.

19. Make available to schools, voting machines or sample ballots for instructional purposes as provided in section 256.11, subsection 5.

20. to 44. Not reprinted.

9–49. [S81, §331.502(9–52); 81 Acts, ch 117, §501; 82 Acts, ch 1104, §51, 52]

83 Acts, ch 101, §77; 83 Acts, ch 185, §29, 62; 83 Acts, ch 186, §10080–10083, 10201; 86 Acts, ch 1108, §2, 3; 86 Acts, ch 1155, §4; 87 Acts, ch 115, §53; 87 Acts, ch 227, §27; 88 Acts, ch 1158, §69; 88 Acts, ch 1262, §7; 93 Acts, ch 148, §1; 94 Acts, ch 1173, §21, 22

331.505 Duties relating to elections.

The auditor shall:

1. Serve as county commissioner of elections as provided in chapter 47.

2. Conduct all elections held within the county.

3. Serve as a member of a board to hear and decide objections made to a certification of nomination as provided in section 44.7.

4. Serve as county commissioner of registration as provided in chapter 48A.

5. Serve as clerk of the election contest court as provided in chapter 62.

6. Record the orders of suspension and temporary appointment of county and township officers as provided in section 66.19.

[S81, §331.505; 81 Acts, ch 117, §504]

94 Acts, ch 1169, §60

331.508 Books and records.

The auditor shall keep the following books and records:

1. Election book for contested proceedings as provided in section 62.3.

2. to 10. Not reprinted.

[C97, §480; S13, §498; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5246; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §342.2; S81, §331.508; 81 Acts, ch 117, §507]

86 Acts, ch 1001, §19; 94 Acts, ch 1173, §24

331.653 General duties of the sheriff.

The sheriff shall:

1. to 6. Not reprinted.

7. Carry out duties relating to election contests as provided in sections 57.6, 62.4 and 62.19.

8. to 71. Not reprinted.

5–71. [S81, §331.653(5–71); 81 Acts, ch 117, §652]

83 Acts, ch 101, §79; 83 Acts, ch 186, §10090, 10091, 10201; 85 Acts, ch 67, §41; 86 Acts, ch 1108, §5; 86 Acts, ch 1121, §2; 86 Acts, ch 1155, §7; 86 Acts, ch 1220, §39; 87 Acts, ch 115, §54; 90 Acts, ch 1230, §91; 91 Acts, ch 191, §14; 92 Acts, ch 1139, §28; 94 Acts, ch 1103, §3; 94 Acts, ch 1173, §27

331.661 Multicounty office.

1. Two or more county boards of supervisors may adopt resolutions proposing to share the services of a county sheriff. The resolutions shall also propose that the question of establishing the office of multicounty sheriff be submitted to the electorate of the counties proposing to share the services of a county sheriff. The proposal is adopted in those counties where a majority of the electors voting approves the proposal.

2. The county sheriff shall be elected by a majority of the votes cast for the office of county sheriff in all of the counties which the county sheriff will serve. The election shall be conducted in accordance with section 47.2, subsection 2.

3. The office of multicounty sheriff is created effective on January 1 of the year following the next general election at which the county sheriff is elected as provided by this section and section 39.17.

91 Acts, ch 189, §1

COUNTY ATTORNEY

331.751 Office of county attorney.

1. The office of county attorney is an elective office except that if a vacancy occurs in the office, a successor shall be appointed to the unexpired term as provided in chapter 69.

2. A person elected or appointed to the office of county attorney shall be a registered voter of the county, be admitted to the practice of law in the courts of this state as provided by law, qualify by taking the oath of office as provided in section 63.10, and give bond as provided in section 64.8. A person is not qualified for the office of county attorney while the person's license to practice law in this or any other state is suspended or revoked.

3. The term of office of the county attorney is four years.

[C51, §96, 239; R60, §224; C97, §1072; S13, §308-b, 1072; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §520, 5179; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §39.17, 336.1; S81, §331.751; 81 Acts, ch 117, §750]

94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

331.753 Multicounty office.

1. If two or more counties agree, pursuant to chapter 28E, to share the services of a county attorney, the county attorney shall be elected by a majority of the votes cast for the office of county attorney in all of the counties which the county attorney will serve as provided in the agreement. The election shall be conducted in accordance with section 47.2, subsection 2.

2. The effective date of the agreement shall be January 1 of the year following the next general election at which the county attorney is elected as provided by this section and section 39.17.

[C79, 81, §336.6; S81, §331.753; 81 Acts, ch 117, §753]

331.756 Duties of the county attorney.

The county attorney shall:

1. to 13. Not reprinted.

14. Hear and decide objections to a nomination filed with the county election commissioner as provided in section 44.7.

15. Review the report and recommendations of the ethics and campaign disclosure board and proceed to institute the recommended actions or advise the board that prosecution is not merited, as provided in sections 68B.32C and 68B.32D.

16. to 85. Not reprinted.

[C97, SS15, §301; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5180; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §336.2; S81, §331.756; 81 Acts, ch 117, §756; 82 Acts, ch 1021, §10, 12(1), ch 1100, §28, ch 1104, §59]

83 Acts, ch 96, §111, 112, 157, 159; 84 Acts, ch 1163, §2; 84 Acts, ch 1299, §9; 85 Acts, ch 195, §42; 86 Acts, ch 1001, §21; 86 Acts, ch 1112, §11; 86 Acts, ch 1155, §8; 86 Acts, ch 1238, §17; 86 Acts, ch 1245, §1117; 87 Acts, ch 30, §18; 87 Acts, ch 98, §4; 88 Acts, ch 1134, §73; 89 Acts, ch 197, §30; 90 Acts, ch 1165, §17; 92 Acts, ch 1242, §30, 31; 93 Acts, ch 97, §39; 93 Acts, ch 110, §2–4; 93 Acts, ch 142, §12; 93 Acts, ch 163, §32; 94 Acts, ch 1023, §106; 94 Acts, ch 1170, §53; 94 Acts, ch 1173, §29, 30

COUNTY LIBRARIES

336.2 Library districts formed.

A county library district may be established composed of one county or two or more adjacent counties and may include or exclude the entirety of a city partly within one of the counties.

Eligible electors residing within the proposed district in a number not less than five percent of those voting for president of the United States or governor, as the case may be, within said district at the last general election may petition the board of supervisors of the county or counties for the establishment of such county library district. Said petition shall clearly designate the area to be included in the district.

2. The board of supervisors having jurisdiction to establish the proposed combined water and sanitary district may proceed with its establishment under this chapter or chapter 358 in the same manner as a benefited water district or a sanitary district is separately established under those chapters. The differences between this chapter and chapter 358 including, but not limited to, the membership of the board of trustees, per diem, and maximum annual per diem, or a power or duty relating to rents, fees, taxation, or bonded indebtedness shall be resolved as a part of the petition submitted to the board of supervisors. Before becoming effective, a change in the membership, per diem, maximum annual per diem, or a power or duty relating to rents, fees, the levy of a tax, or the issuance of bonds, or other differences specified on the petition shall be submitted for the approval of the district electorate. However, the number of members, per diem, maximum annual per diem, or differences in powers and duties included in a combined district shall not be inconsistent with this chapter or chapter 358.

3. For the purpose of establishing, operating, or dissolving a combined water and sanitary district under this chapter and chapter 358, the term *"benefited water district"* includes combined water and sanitary district where applicable.

4. Water services and a water service plan prepared by the combined district are subject to approval by an affected city as provided in section 357.1.

92 Acts, ch 1204, §10

357.12 Election.

When the preliminary design and assessment have been approved by the board of supervisors, a date not more than thirty days after the approval shall be set for an election within the district to determine whether or not the proposed improvement shall be constructed and to choose candidates for the offices of trustee within the district. The proposal to approve or disapprove the improvement and the selection of candidates for trustees shall be presented at the same election. Notice of the election, including the time and place of holding the election, shall be given in the same manner as for the public hearing provided for in section 357.4. The vote shall be by ballot which shall state clearly the proposition to be voted upon, and any registered voter residing within the district at the time of the election may vote. The county commissioner of elections shall conduct elections held pursuant to this chapter, and the elections shall be conducted in accordance with chapter 49 where those procedures are not in conflict with this chapter. Precinct election officials shall be appointed to serve without pay, by the commissioner of elections, from among the registered voters of the district. The proposition shall be deemed to have carried if a majority of those voting on the proposition votes in favor of it.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, §5524; C39, §5526.12; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §357.12]

92 Acts, ch 1204, §13; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

357.13 Trustees — qualification and terms.

1. At the initial election provided for in section 357.12, the names of the trustees shall be written by the voter on blank ballots without formal nomination and the board of supervisors shall appoint three from among the five receiving the highest number of votes as trustees for the district, one to serve for one year, one for two years, and one for three years. The trustees and their successors shall give bond in the amount the board of supervisors may require, the premium of which shall be paid by the district which the trustees represent. Vacancies during a term may be filled by election, or by appointment by the board of supervisors, at the option of the remaining trustees. The trustees must be residents of the district. The term of succeeding trustees shall be for three years.

2. After the initial board of trustees is selected, a candidate for trustee shall be nominated by a personal affidavit of the candidate or by petition of at least ten eligible electors of the district and the candidate's affidavit, which shall be filed with the county commissioner of elections at least twenty-five days before the date of the election. The form of the candidate's affidavit shall be substantially the same as provided in section 45.3.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, §5524; C39, §5526.13; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §357.13]

91 Acts, ch 111, §1; 92 Acts, ch 1204, §14

357.15 Inadequate assessment.

When bids have been received, if it is apparent that the final assessment will need to be increased more than ten percent over the preliminary assessment, the board of supervisors shall, at its option, reject bids and readvertise for bids as provided herein, or reject bids and revise the dummy assessment. If the dummy assessment is revised, another election shall be held within the district in the same manner and with the same notices as the first, except that the candidates for trustees shall not be voted for.

[C39, §5526.15; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §357.15]

357.16 Second election.

If the majority of the votes cast at said second election be in favor of said improvement, the board of supervisors shall again advertise for bids in the same manner as before. If the bids at the second letting will not necessitate raising the second preliminary assessment more than ten percent, the board may let the contract to the lowest responsible bidder.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, §5524; C39, §5526.16; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §357.16]

357.29 Subdistricts.

If the cost of the desired extensions will be as much as five thousand dollars, the interested parties may petition the board of supervisors to organize a subdistrict, and in such case the board shall proceed in the same manner as for a new district, and may take in territory not originally assessed.

The board of supervisors shall have power at any time to alter the boundaries of any district prior to the time of posting or publishing notice of the election within the district.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, §5522; C39, §5526.29; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §357.29]

RURAL WATER DISTRICTS

357A.23 City sewer and water franchise authorized.

Notwithstanding section 364.2, subsection 4, paragraph *"a"*, for the purposes of obtaining or qualifying for federal funding, a city may grant a franchise to a rural water district incorporated under this chapter or chapter 504A, for a term of not more than forty years. In addition to the franchises listed in section 364.2, subsection 4, paragraph *"a"*, a city may grant a franchise to a rural water district incorporated under this chapter or chapter 504A, to erect, maintain, and operate plants and systems for sewer services. All provisions of section 364.2 shall otherwise apply to a franchise granted to a rural water district.

94 Acts, ch 1137, §1

FIRE DISTRICTS

357B.2 Board of trustees.

A benefited fire district shall be governed by a board of trustees consisting of three members who shall serve overlapping, three-year terms. Each trustee shall give bond in an amount to be determined by the board of supervisors, the premium for which shall be paid by the district of the trustee. The members of the board of trustees shall be elected at an election or, if there are insufficient candidates for the office, appointed by the board of supervisors from among the qualified electors of the district. Notice of the election shall be given by publication in a newspaper having general circulation within the district. The notice shall contain the date, time and location of the election. The elections shall be conducted in accordance with chapter 49 when such provisions are not in conflict with this chapter. The precinct election officials shall be appointed by the board of supervisors from among the qualified electors of the district and shall serve without pay. Any vacancy on the board shall be filled by appointment of the board of supervisors for the unexpired term. If a benefited fire district is located in more than one county, joint action of the boards of supervisors of the affected counties is required to appoint the members of the board of trustees, to determine the amount of bond, or to dissolve the district as provided in this chapter.

[C58, 62, 66, §357A.9, 357A.10; C71, 73, 75, §357B.9, 357B.10; C77, 79, 81, §357B.2; 82 Acts, ch 1046, §1]

357C.7 Election on proposed levy and candidates for trustees.

When a preliminary plat has been approved by the board of supervisors, an election shall be held within the district within sixty days to approve or disapprove the levy of a tax of not more than fifty-four cents per thousand dollars of assessed value on all the taxable property within the district, and to choose candidates for the offices of trustees of the district. Notice of the election, including the time and place of holding the same, shall be given in the same manner as for the original public hearing as provided herein. The vote shall be by ballot which shall state clearly the proposition to be voted upon, and any registered voter residing within the district at the time of the election shall be entitled to vote. It shall not be mandatory for the county commissioner of elections to conduct elections held pursuant to this chapter, but they shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of chapter 49 where not in conflict with this chapter. Judges shall be appointed to serve without pay by the board of supervisors from among the registered voters of the district who will have charge of the election. The proposition shall be deemed to have carried if sixty percent of those voting thereon vote in favor of same.

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §357C.7]
94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

357C.8 Trustees — term and qualification.

At the election, the names of candidates for trustee shall be written in by the voters on blank ballots without formal nomination, and the board of supervisors shall appoint three from among the five receiving the highest number of votes as trustees for the district; one to serve for one year, one for two years, and one for three years. The trustees and their successors must be residents of the district and shall give bond in the amount which the board of supervisors may require, the premium of which shall be paid by the district the trustees represent. Vacancies may thereafter be filled by election, or by appointment by the board of supervisors. The term of succeeding trustees shall be for three years.

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §357C.8]
91 Acts, ch 111, §3

357C.9 Trustees' powers.

The trustees may purchase street lighting service and facilities and may levy an annual tax not to exceed fifty-four cents per thousand dollars of assessed value for the purpose of exercising the powers granted in this chapter. This levy shall be optional with the trustees, but no levy shall be made unless first approved by the voters as provided herein. The trustees may purchase material, employ labor, and may perform all other acts necessary to properly maintain and operate the benefited street lighting district. The trustees shall be allowed necessary expenses in the discharge of the duties, but shall not receive any salary.

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §357C.9]

357C.10 Bonds in anticipation of revenue.

Benefited street lighting districts may anticipate the collection of taxes by the levy herein provided, and to carry out the purposes of this chapter may issue bonds payable in not more than ten equal installments, with the rate of interest thereon not exceeding that permitted by chapter 74A. No indebtedness shall be incurred under this chapter until authorized by an election. Such election shall be held and notice given in the same manner as the election provided herein for the authorization of a tax levy, and the same sixty percent vote shall be necessary to authorize indebtedness. Both propositions may be submitted to the voters in the same election.

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §357C.10]

LAW ENFORCEMENT DISTRICTS

357D.8 Election on proposed levy and candidates for trustees.

When a preliminary plat has been approved by the board, an election shall be held within the district within sixty days to approve or disapprove the levy of a tax of not more than one dollar per thousand dollars of assessed value on all the taxable property within the district and to choose candidates for the offices of trustees of the district. Notice of the election, including the time and place of holding the election, shall be given as provided in section 357D.4. The vote shall be by ballot which shall state clearly the proposition to be voted upon and any registered voter residing within the district at the time of the election may vote. It is not mandatory for the county commissioner of elections to conduct elections held pursuant to this chapter, but the elections shall be conducted in accordance with chapter 49 where not in conflict with this chapter. Judges shall be appointed to serve without pay by the board from among the registered voters of the district to be in charge of the election. The proposition is approved if sixty percent of those voting on the proposition vote in favor of it.

[82 Acts, ch 1174, §8]

84 Acts, ch 1216, §1; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

357D.9 Trustees — term and qualification.

At the election, the names of up to three candidates for trustee shall be written in by the voters on blank ballots without formal nomination and the board shall appoint three from among the five receiving the highest number of votes as trustees for the district. One trustee shall be appointed to serve for one year, one for two years, and one for three years. The trustees and their successors must be residents of the district and shall give bond in the amount required by the board, the premium of which shall be paid by the district. Vacancies shall be filled by election, but if there are no candidates for a trustee office, the vacancy may be filled by appointment by the board. The term of succeeding trustees shall be three years.

[82 Acts, ch 1174, §9]

91 Acts, ch 111, §5

357D.10 Trustees' powers.

The trustees may provide law enforcement service and facilities and may certify for levy an annual tax as provided in section 357D.8. The trustees may purchase material, employ peace officers and other personnel, and may perform all other acts necessary to properly maintain and operate the district. The trustees are allowed necessary expenses in the discharge of their duties, but they shall not receive a salary.

[82 Acts, ch 1174, §10]

84 Acts, ch 1216, §2

357D.11 Bonds in anticipation of revenue.

A district may anticipate the collection of taxes by the levy authorized in this chapter, and to carry out the purposes of this chapter may issue bonds payable in not more than ten equal installments with the rate of interest not exceeding that permitted by chapter 74A. An indebtedness shall not be incurred under this chapter until authorized by an election. The election shall be held and notice given in the same manner as provided in section 357D.8, and the same sixty percent vote shall be necessary to authorize indebtedness. Both propositions may be submitted to the voters at the same election.

[82 Acts, ch 1174, §11]

RECREATIONAL LAKE DISTRICTS

357E.8 Election on proposed levy and candidates for trustees.

When a preliminary plat has been approved by the board, an election shall be held within the district within sixty days to approve or disapprove the levy of a tax of not more than four dollars per thousand dollars of assessed value on all the taxable property within the district except property assessed as agricultural land, and to choose candidates for the offices of trustees of the district. A tax levy approved for the purposes of this chapter shall not be levied on property assessed as agricultural land. Notice of the election, including the time and place of holding the election, shall be given as provided in section 357E.4. The vote shall be by ballot which shall state clearly the proposition to be voted upon, and any registered voter residing within the district at the time of the election may vote. It is not mandatory for the county commissioner of elections to conduct elections held pursuant to this chapter, but the elections shall be conducted in accordance with chapter 49 when not in conflict with this chapter. Judges shall be appointed by the board from among the registered voters of the district to be in charge of the election. The judges are not entitled to receive pay. The proposition is approved if a majority of those voting on the proposition vote in favor of it.

88 Acts, ch 1194, §8; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

357E.9 Trustees — term and qualification.

At the election, the names of at least three candidates for trustee shall be written in by the voters on blank ballots without formal nomination and the board of supervisors shall appoint three from among the five receiving the highest number of votes as trustees for the district. One trustee shall be appointed to serve for one year, one for two years, and one for three years. The trustees shall give bond in the amount required by the board, the premium of which shall be paid by the district. The trustees must be residents of the district. Vacancies shall be filled by election, but if there are no candidates for a trustee office, the vacancy may be filled by appointment by the board. The terms of the succeeding trustees are for three years.

If the state owns at least four hundred acres of land contiguous to a lake within the district, the natural resources commission shall appoint two members of the board of trustees in addition to the three members provided in this section. The additional two members must be citizens of the state, not less than eighteen years of age, and property owners within the district. The two additional members have voting and other authority equal to the other members of the board and hold office at the pleasure of the natural resources commission.

88 Acts, ch 1194, §9; 91 Acts, ch 111, §7

357E.10 Board of trustees — power.

The trustees are the corporate authority of the district and shall manage and control the affairs, property, and facilities of the district. The board of trustees shall elect a president, a clerk, and a treasurer from its membership. The trustees may certify for levy an annual tax as provided in section 357E.8. The trustees may construct, reconstruct, repair, maintain, or operate a dam or other recreational facilities or structures to create or maintain an artificial or natural lake or impoundment and, for this purpose, may purchase material, employ personnel, and perform all other acts necessary to properly maintain and operate the district. The trustees are allowed necessary expenses in the discharge of their duties, but they shall not receive a salary.

88 Acts, ch 1194, §10

357E.11 Bonds in anticipation of revenue.

A district may anticipate the collection of taxes by the levy authorized in this chapter, and to carry out the purposes of this chapter may issue bonds payable in not more than twenty equal installments with the rate of interest not exceeding that permitted by chapter 74A. An indebtedness shall not be incurred under this chapter until authorized by an election. The election shall be held and notice given in the same manner as provided in section 357E.8, and the same majority vote is necessary to authorize indebtedness. Both propositions may be submitted to the voters at the same election.

88 Acts, ch 1194, §11

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DISTRICTS

357F.8 Election on proposed levy and candidates for trustees.

When a preliminary plat has been approved by the board, an election shall be held within the district within sixty days to approve or disapprove the levy of a tax of not more than one dollar per thousand dollars of assessed value on all the taxable property within the district and to choose candidates for the offices of trustees of the district. The ballot shall set out the reason for the tax and the amount needed. The tax shall be set to raise only the amount needed. Notice of the election, including the time and place of holding the election, shall be given as provided in section 357F.4. The vote shall be by ballot which shall state clearly the proposition to be voted upon and any registered voter residing within the district at the time of the election may vote. It is not mandatory for the county commissioner of elections to conduct elections held pursuant to this chapter, but the elections shall be conducted in accordance with chapter 49 where not in conflict with this chapter. Judges shall be appointed to serve without pay by the board from among the registered voters of the district to be in charge of the election. The proposition is approved if sixty percent of those voting on the proposition vote in favor of it.

92 Acts, ch 1226, §9; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

357F.9 Trustees — term and qualification.

At the election, the names of up to three candidates for trustee shall be written in by the voters on blank ballots without formal nomination and the board shall appoint three from among the five receiving the highest number of votes as trustees for the district. One trustee shall be appointed to serve for one year, one for two years, and one for three years. The trustees and their successors must be residents of the district and shall give bond in the amount required by the board, the premium of which shall be paid by the district. Vacancies shall be filled by election, but if there are no candidates for a trustee office, the vacancy may be filled by appointment by the board. The term of succeeding trustees shall be three years.

92 Acts, ch 1226, §10

357F.11 Bonds in anticipation of revenue.

A district may anticipate the collection of taxes by the levy authorized in this chapter, and to carry out the purposes of this chapter may issue bonds payable in not more than ten equal installments with the rate of interest not exceeding that permitted by chapter 74A. An indebtedness shall not be incurred under this chapter until authorized by an election. The election shall be held and notice given in the same manner as provided in section 357F.8, and the same sixty percent vote shall be necessary to authorize indebtedness. Both propositions may be submitted to the voters at the same election.

92 Acts, ch 1226, §12

358.5 Hearing of petition and order.

The board of supervisors to whom the petition is addressed shall preside at the hearing provided for in section 358.4 and shall continue the hearing in session, with adjournments from day to day, if necessary, until completed, without being required to give any further notice of the hearing. Proof of the residences and qualifications of the petitioners as eligible electors shall be made by affidavit or otherwise as the board may direct. The board may consider the boundaries of a proposed sanitary district, whether they shall be as described in the petition or otherwise, and for that purpose may alter and amend the petition and limit or change the boundaries of the proposed district as stated in the petition. The board shall adjust the boundaries of a proposed district as needed to exclude land that has no reasonable likelihood of benefit from inclusion in the proposed district. The boundaries of a proposed district shall not be changed to incorporate property not included in the original petition and published notice until the owner of the property is given notice of inclusion as on the original hearing. All persons in the proposed district shall have an opportunity to be heard regarding the location and boundaries of the proposed district and to make suggestions regarding the location and boundaries, and the board of supervisors, after hearing the statements, evidence and suggestions made and offered at the hearing, shall enter an order fixing and determining the limits and boundaries of the proposed district and directing that an election be held for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors owning land within the boundaries of the proposed district the question of organization and establishment of the proposed sanitary district as determined by said board of supervisors. The order shall fix a date for the election not more than sixty days after the date of the order.

However, a majority of the landowners, owning in the aggregate more than seventy percent of the total land in the proposed district, may file a written remonstrance against the proposed district at or before the time fixed for the hearing on the proposed district with the county auditor. If the remonstrance is filed, the board of supervisors shall discontinue all further proceedings on the proposed district and charge the costs incurred to date relating to the establishment of the proposed district.

[C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §358.5]

84 Acts, ch 1051, §2

358.6 Notice of election.

In its order for the election the board of supervisors shall direct the county commissioner of elections of the county in which the petition is filed to cause notice of the election to be given at least thirty days before the date of election by publication of the notice as provided in section 331.305. The notice shall state the time and place of holding the election and the hours when the polls will open and close, the purpose of the election, with the name of the proposed sanitary district and a description of the boundaries of it, and shall set forth briefly the limits of each voting precinct and the location of the polling places. Proof of publication shall be made in the manner provided in section 358.4 and filed with the county auditor.

[C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §358.6]

92 Acts, ch 1204, §17

358.7 Election.

Each registered voter resident within such proposed sanitary district shall have the right to cast a ballot at such election and no person shall vote in any precinct but that of the person's residence. Ballots at such election shall be in substantially the following form, to wit:

For Sanitary District ☐
Against Sanitary District ☐

The board of supervisors shall cause a statement of the result of such election to be spread upon the records of the county auditor. If a majority of the votes cast upon the question of incorporation of the proposed sanitary district shall be in favor of the proposed sanitary district, such proposed sanitary district shall thenceforth be deemed an organized sanitary district under this chapter and established as conducive to the public health, comfort, convenience, and welfare.

[C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §358.7]

94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

358.8 Expenses and costs of election.

The election held pursuant to this chapter shall be conducted by the county commissioner of elections. All expenses incurred in carrying out the foregoing sections of this chapter, together with the costs of the election, as determined by the county commissioner of elections, shall be paid by those who will be benefited by the proposed sanitary district. If the district is not established, the expenses and costs shall be collected upon the bond or bonds of the petitioners.

[C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §358.8]

92 Acts, ch 1204, §18

10. *"Island"* means land which is not part of a city and which is completely surrounded by the corporate boundaries of one or more cities. However, a part of the boundary of an *"island"* may be contiguous with a boundary of the state, a river, or similar natural barrier which prevents service access from an adjoining area of land outside the boundaries of a city.

11. *"Public utility"* means a public utility subject to regulation pursuant to chapter 476.

12. *"Registered voter"* means a person who is registered to vote pursuant to chapter 48A.

13. *"Severance"* means the deletion of territory from a city.

14. *"Territory"* means the land area or areas proposed to be incorporated, annexed, or severed, whether or not contiguous to all other areas proposed to be incorporated, annexed, or severed. Except as provided for by an agreement pursuant to chapter 28E, *"territory"* having a common boundary with the right-of-way of a secondary road extends to the center line of the road.

15. *"Urbanized area"* means any area of land within two miles of the boundaries of a city.

[C58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §362.1; C75, 77, 79, 81, §368.1]

89 Acts, ch 98, §1; 89 Acts, ch 299, §1; 91 Acts, ch 187, §1; 91 Acts, ch 250, §1; 92 Acts, ch 1174, §1; 93 Acts, ch 152, §1–3; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §61

GENERAL PROVISIONS

368.2 Name change.

A city may change its name as follows:

1. The council shall propose the name change and shall notify the county commissioner of elections that the question shall be submitted at the next regular city election.

2. The county commissioner of elections shall publish notice, as provided in section 362.3, of the proposed new name, and of the fact that the question will be submitted at the next regular city election. The county commissioner of elections shall report the results of the balloting on the question to the mayor and the city council.

3. If a majority of those voting on the question approves the proposed new name, the city clerk shall enter the new name upon the city records and file certified copies of the proceedings, including the council's proposal, proof of publication of notice, and certification of the election result, with the county recorder of each county which contains part of the city, and with the secretary of state. Upon proper filing the name change is complete and effective.

[C97, §628–630; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5619–5622; C46, 50, 54, §362.34–362.37; C58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §362.38–362.41; C75, 77, 79, 81, §368.2]

368.11 Petition for involuntary city development action.

A petition for incorporation, discontinuance, or boundary adjustment may be filed with the board by a city council, a county board of supervisors, a regional planning authority, or five percent of the qualified electors of a city or territory involved in the proposal. Notice of the filing, including a copy of the petition, must be served upon the council of each city for which a discontinuance or boundary adjustment is proposed, the board of supervisors for each county which contains a portion of a city to be discontinued or territory to be incorporated, annexed or severed, the council of a city if an incorporation includes territory within the city's urbanized area, and any regional planning authority for the area involved.

Within ninety days of receipt of a petition, the board shall initiate appropriate proceedings or dismiss the petition. The board may combine for consideration petitions or plans which concern the same territory or city or which provide for a boundary adjustment or incorporation affecting common territory. The combined petitions may be submitted for consideration by a special local committee pursuant to section 368.14A.

The petition must include substantially the following information as applicable:

1. A general statement of the proposal.
2. A map of the territory, city or cities involved.
3. Assessed valuation of platted and unplatted land.
4. Names of property owners.
5. Population density.
6. Description of topography.
7. Plans for disposal of assets and assumption of liabilities.
8. Description of existing municipal services, including but not limited to water supply, sewage disposal, and fire and police protection.
9. Plans for agreements with any existing special service districts.
10. In a case of annexation or incorporation, the petition must state that none of the territory is within a city.
11. In a case of incorporation or consolidation, the petition must state the name of the proposed city.
12. Plans shall include a formal agreement between affected municipal corporations and counties for the maintenance, improvement and traffic control of any shared roads involved in an incorporation or boundary adjustment.
13. In the discretion of a city council, a provision for a transition for the imposition of city taxes against property within an annexation area. The provision shall not allow a greater exemption from taxation than the tax exemption formula schedule provided under section 427B.3, subsections 1 through 5, and shall be applied in the levy and collection of taxes. The provision may also allow for the partial provision of city services during the time in which the exemption from taxation is in effect.

At least ten days before a petition for involuntary annexation is filed as provided in this section, the petitioner shall make its intention known by sending a letter of intent by certified mail to the council of each city whose urbanized area contains a portion of the territory, the board of supervisors of each county which contains a portion of the territory, the regional planning authority of the territory involved, each affected public utility, and to each property owner listed in the petition. The written notification shall include notice that the petitioners shall hold a public meeting on the petition for involuntary annexation prior to the filing of the petition.

Before a petition for involuntary annexation may be filed, the petitioner shall hold a public meeting on the petition. Notice of the meeting shall be published in an official county newspaper in each county which contains a part of the territory at least five days before the date of the public meeting. The mayor of the city proposing to annex the territory, or that person's designee, shall serve as chairperson of the public meeting. The city clerk of the same city or the city clerk's designee shall record the proceedings of the public meeting. Any person attending the meeting may submit written comments and may be heard on the petition. The minutes of the public meeting and all documents submitted at the public meeting shall be forwarded to the board by the chairperson of the meeting.

[R60, §1031, 1038, 1043; C73, §421, 426, 430, 431, 447, 448; C97, §599, 604, 610, 611, 615, 617, 621; S13, §615; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §5588, 5598, 5612–5614, 5616; C46, 50, §362.1, 362.11, 362.26, 362.28, 362.29, 362.31; C54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, §362.1, 362.11, 362.26, 362.31; C75, 77, 79, 81, §368.11]

89 Acts, ch 299, §3; 91 Acts, ch 250, §6; 92 Acts, ch 1174, §4; 93 Acts, ch 152, §9

368.12 Dismissal.

The board may dismiss a petition only if it finds that the petition does not meet the requirements of this chapter, or that substantially the same incorporation, discontinuance, or boundary adjustment has been disapproved by a committee formed to consider the proposal, or by the voters, within the two years prior to the date the petition is filed with the board, or that the territory to be annexed, or a portion of that territory, has been voluntarily annexed under section 368.7. The board shall file for record a statement of each dismissal and the reason for it, and shall promptly notify the parties to the proceeding of its decision.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §368.12]

91 Acts, ch 250, §7

368.13 Board may initiate proceedings.

Based on the results of its studies, the board may initiate proceedings for the incorporation, discontinuance, or boundary adjustment of a city. The board may request a city to submit a plan for city development or may formulate its own plan for city development. A plan submitted at the board's initiation must include the same information as a petition and be filed and acted upon in the same manner as a petition. A petition or plan may include any information relevant to the proposal, including but not limited to results of studies and surveys, and arguments.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §368.13]

93 Acts, ch 152, §10

368.14 Local representatives.

If an involuntary petition is not dismissed, the board shall direct the appointment of local representatives to serve with board members as a committee to consider the proposal. Each local representative is entitled to receive from the state the representative's actual and necessary expenses spent in performance of committee duties. Three board members and one local representative, or if the number of local representatives exceeds one, three board members and at least one-half of the appointed local representatives, are required for a quorum of the committee. A local representative must be a registered voter of the territory or city which the representative represents, and must be selected as follows:

1. From a territory to be incorporated, one representative appointed by the county board of supervisors. If the territory is in more than one county, the board shall direct the appointment of a local representative from each county involved.

2. From a city to be discontinued, one representative appointed by the city council.

3. From a territory to be annexed to or severed from a city, one representative appointed by the county board of supervisors. If there are no registered voters residing in an area to be annexed to or severed from a city, the county board of supervisors shall appoint as local representative an individual owning property in the territory whether or not the individual is a registered voter or appoint a designee of such individual. If the territory is in more than one county, the board shall direct the appointment of a local representative from each county involved by its board of supervisors.

4. From a city to which territory is to be annexed or from which territory is to be severed, one representative appointed by the city council. If the territory is in more than one county, the board shall direct the appointment of an equal number of city and county local representatives.

5. From each city to be consolidated, one representative appointed by each city council.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §368.14]

91 Acts, ch 250, §8; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §64

602.8102 General duties.

The clerk shall:

1. to 12. Not reprinted.

13. Carry out duties as a member of a nominations appeal commission as provided in section 44.7.

14. Maintain a bar admission list as provided in section 46.8.

15. Notify the county commissioner of registration and the state registrar of voters of persons seventeen and one-half years of age and older who have been convicted of a felony or who have been legally declared to be mentally incompetent.

16. to 164. Not reprinted.

83 Acts, ch 96, §159, 160; 83 Acts, ch 186, §9102, 10201; 85 Acts, ch 21, §45, 46; 85 Acts, ch 82, §2; 85 Acts, ch 178, §10, 11; 85 Acts, ch 195, §53; 85 Acts, ch 197, §17–19; 85 Acts, ch 201, §3; 86 Acts, ch 1108, §7; 86 Acts, ch 1112, §12; 86 Acts, ch 1140, §2; 86 Acts, ch 1120, §40; 87 Acts, ch 41, §1; 87 Acts, ch 115, §77, 78; 87 Acts, ch 157, §3; 88 Acts, ch 1134, §102–104; 88 Acts, ch 1158, §97; 89 Acts, ch 50, §13; 89 Acts, ch 83, §80; 89 Acts, ch 178, §6; 90 Acts, ch 1035, §2; 90 Acts, ch 1081, §3; 90 Acts, ch 1205, §61; 90 Acts, ch 1236, §52; 91 Acts, ch 86, §2; 91 Acts, ch 116, §8; 91 Acts, ch 267, §415; 92 Acts, ch 1163, §111–114; 93 Acts, ch 70, §8, 9; 93 Acts, ch 79, §52; 93 Acts, ch 110, §7; 93 Acts, ch 180, §51; 94 Acts, ch 1046, §25; 94 Acts, ch 1124, §1; 94 Acts, ch 1169, §62; 94 Acts, ch 1173, §39

602.11110 Judgeships for election districts 5A and 5C.

As soon as practicable after January 1, 1985, the supreme court administrator shall recompute the number of judgeships to which judicial election districts 5A and 5C are entitled. Notwithstanding section 602.6201, subsection 2, the seventeen incumbent district judges in judicial election district 5A on December 31, 1984 may reside in either judicial election district 5A or 5C beginning January 1, 1985. The supreme court administrator shall apportion to judicial election district 5C those incumbent district judges who were appointed to replace district judges residing in Polk county or who were appointed to fill newly created judgeships while residing in Polk county. The incumbent district judges residing in Polk county on January 1, 1985 who are not so apportioned to judicial election district 5C shall be apportioned to judicial election district 5A but shall be reapportioned to judicial election district 5C, in the order of their seniority as district judges, as soon as the first vacancies occur in judicial election district 5C due to death, resignation, retirement, removal, or failure of retention. Such a reapportionment constitutes a vacancy in judicial election district 5A for purposes of section 602.6201. Notwithstanding section 602.6201, subsection 2, the seventeen incumbent district judges in judicial election district 5A on December 31, 1984 shall stand for retention in the judicial election district to which the district judges are apportioned or reapportioned under this section. Commencing on January 1, 1985, vacancies within judicial election districts 5A and 5C shall be determined and filled under section 602.6201, subsections 4 through 8. For purposes of the recomputations, the supreme court administrator shall determine the average case filings for the latest available three-year period by reallocating the actual case filings during the three-year period to judicial election districts 5A and 5C as if they existed throughout the three-year period.

83 Acts, ch 186, §10201, 10310; 85 Acts, ch 197, §35

722.9 Duress to procure voting.

A person who procures, or endeavors to procure the vote of an elector for or against any candidate or for or against any issue by means of violence, threats of violence or by any means of duress commits an aggravated misdemeanor.

[C51, §2700; R60, §4342; C73, §4002; C97, §4926; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §13277; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, §738.15; C79, 81, §722.9]

VICE

725.10 Pool selling — places used.

Any person who records or registers bets or wagers or sells pools upon the result of any trial or contest of skill, speed, or power of endurance of human or beast, or upon the result of any political nomination or election, and any person who keeps a place for the purpose of doing any such thing, and any owner, lessee, or occupant of any premises, who knowingly permits the same, or any part thereof, to be used for any such purpose, and anyone who, as custodian or depositary thereof, for hire or reward, receives any money, property, or thing of value staked, wagered, or bet upon any such result, shall be guilty of a serious misdemeanor.

[C97, §4966; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §13216; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, §726.6; C79, 81, §725.10]

REPRIEVES, PARDONS, COMMUTATIONS, REMISSIONS, AND RESTORATIONS OF RIGHTS

914.6 Procedures — filing.

1. and 2. Not reprinted.

3. In the case of a remission of fines and forfeitures, restoration of rights of citizenship, or a pardon, commutation of sentence, or reprieve, if the person is not in custody, one copy of the executive instrument shall be delivered to the person and one copy to the clerk of court where the judgment is of record. A list of the restorations of rights of citizenship issued by the governor shall be delivered to the state registrar of voters at least once each month.

4. Not reprinted.

86 Acts, ch 1112, §9
C87, §248A.6
C93, §914.6
94 Acts, ch 1169, §63

CITIES — Continued
Utilities
Electric power facilities, joining, 28F.1
Operation, proposal to voters, 388.2
Water utilities, joint, establishing, 389.2
Wards, 49.3(4), 372.13(7)
Water utilities, joint, establishing, 389.2
Zoos and zoological gardens, *see ZOOS*

CLERKS OF DISTRICT COURT
See DISTRICT COURT

COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS
County commissioners
Definition, 39.3
Duties, 47.2
Training course, election personnel, 49.124–49.126
Voter registration, *see VOTER REGISTRATION*
State commissioner
Definition, 39.3
Duties, 47.1
Training manual, election officials, 49.126
Voter registration commissioners, county, *see VOTER REGISTRATION*

COMMITTEES
Political parties, *see POLITICAL PARTIES*

COMMUNITY CLUSTERS
Tax sharing, referendum, 28E.39

COMMUNITY COLLEGES
Combining merged areas, question to voters, 260C.39
Debt, incurring, proposition to voters, 260C.21
Directors
Districts, 260C.5(2), 260C.13
Election, 39.24, 260C.11–260C.13, 260C.15, 277.1
Facilities, tax levy for, 260C.22
Map, *following* 260C.39
Program sharing, property tax for, question to voters, 260C.28
Tax levy, facilities construction and improvement, 260C.22

COMMUNITY COMMONWEALTHS
General provisions, 331.260–331.263

CONGRESS
Districts
Designated, 40.1
Map, *following* ch 40
Redistricting, ch 42
Restrictions, Const Iowa III §37

CONGRESS — Continued
Representatives, United States
Certificate of election, 50.43
Contested elections, ch 60
Districts, *see subhead Districts above*
Nominated, vacancy filled
General election, 43.78(1)
Special election, 43.83
Senators, United States
Certificate of election, 50.43
Contested elections, ch 60
Manner of election, 39.10
Nomination, 43.6
Vacancy filled, 69.8(1), 69.13

CONSERVATION BOARDS, COUNTY
Creation, question to voters, 350.2

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS
Submission to voters, Const Iowa X §1–3; ch 49A

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
Question submitted to voters, Const Iowa X §3; 39.4

CONSTITUTION OF IOWA
Amendments, submission to voters, Const Iowa X §1, 2; ch 49A
Revision, question of calling convention, Const Iowa X §3; 39.4

CONTESTED ELECTIONS
General provisions, ch 57
County officers, ch 62
General assembly, Const Iowa III §7; ch 59
Governor, Const Iowa IV §5; ch 58
Lieutenant governor, Const Iowa IV §5; ch 58
Presidential electors, ch 60
Public measures, 57.7
Qualification of officer, 63.4
Representatives, United States, ch 60
School elections, 277.22
Senators, United States, ch 60
State officers, ch 61

CONVENTIONS
Political parties, *see POLITICAL PARTIES*
Special charter cities, political parties, 420.126–420.137

COSTS
See EXPENSES

COUNCILS
See CITIES

COUNTIES
Agricultural extension councils and districts, *see AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION DISTRICTS*
Airport commissions, establishing and abolishing, question to voters, 330.17–330.19
Attorneys, *see COUNTY ATTORNEYS*
Auditors, *see COUNTY AUDITORS*
Board-elected executive form, 331.239
Board-manager form, 331.241–331.243
Boards of supervisors, *see COUNTY BOARDS OF SUPERVISORS*
Bond issues
  General provisions, 75.1
  General obligation bonds, 331.441, 331.442, 331.445–331.447
  Joint facilities, financing, 28E.16
  Memorial buildings and monuments, 37.6
Boundaries, changing, Const Iowa III §30
Bridges, construction aid by city, tax levy, 384.12(5)
Buildings, joint city-county, bond issues, 346.27
Care facilities, establishing, 347B.1
Charter form, 331.246
Charters, adoption, 331.232–331.238
City-county consolidation, 331.247–331.252
City-county facilities, bond issues, 28E.16
Community clusters, tax revenue sharing, referendum, 28E.39
Community commonwealths, 331.260–331.263
Conservation boards, creation, question to voters, 350.2
Consolidation, 331.253–331.256
Courthouses, *see COURTHOUSES*
Debt, bonded, principal and interest payment, tax levy, 331.447
Emergency medical services, *see EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES*
Enterprise commissions, establish, proposal to voters, 331.471
Executives, elected, 331.239
Fairs, official fairs designated, 174.10
Gambling, excursion boats and games at pari-mutuel racetracks, referenda, 99F.7
Government, forms of organization
  Board-elected executive, 331.239
  Board-manager, 331.241–331.243
  Board of supervisors, 331.201–331.210
  Changing and amending, 331.232–331.238, 331.244, 331.245
  Charter government, 331.246
  City-county consolidated, 331.247–331.252
  Community commonwealths, 331.260–331.263
  Multicounty consolidated, 331.253–331.256
Hospitals, *see HOSPITALS*

COUNTIES — Continued
Hotel and motel tax, 422A.1
Indebtedness, bonded, principal and interest payment, tax levy, 331.447
Law enforcement, unified districts, tax levy, 28E.22, 28E.25, 28E.28A
Leases and lease-purchase contracts, entering into, 331.301
Levies, *see subhead Taxes below*
Libraries, *see LIBRARIES*
Loan agreements, entering into, 331.402
Memorial buildings and monuments, *see MEMORIAL BUILDINGS AND MONUMENTS*
Mental health centers, trustees, election, 230A.4, 230A.5
Metropolitan service areas, regional, 28E.40
Multicounty government consolidations, 331.253–331.256
Officers, *see COUNTY OFFICERS*
Offices combined, election, 331.323
Precincts, *see PRECINCTS*
Property taxes, *see subhead Taxes below*
Racetracks
  Gambling games operation, referendum, 99F.7
  Property tax exemption, extension, 99D.14
Recorders, *see COUNTY RECORDERS*
Regional metropolitan service areas, 28E.40
Sheriffs, *see COUNTY SHERIFFS*
Supervisors, *see COUNTY BOARDS OF SUPERVISORS*
Taxes
  Emergency medical services, 422D.1, 422D.5
  Hospitals, erecting, levies for, 347.7
  Hotel and motel, 422A.1
  Indebtedness, bonded, principal and interest payment, 331.447
  Law enforcement, unified districts, 28E.22, 28E.25, 28E.28A
  Local option, 422B.1
  Racetracks, exemption extension, 99D.14
  Special levy elections, 331.425
Telephone systems, emergency (E911), surcharges for, referenda, 34A.6, 34A.6A
Townships, *see TOWNSHIPS*
Treasurers, *see COUNTY TREASURERS*
Voter registration, *see VOTER REGISTRATION*
Voting machines, *see VOTING MACHINES*

COUNTING BOARDS
General provisions, ch 51

COUNTY ATTORNEYS
See also COUNTY OFFICERS
Duties, 331.756
Election, 39.17, 331.751, 331.753
Multicounty office, election, 331.753
Term, 39.17, 331.751

REFERENDA
Community clusters, tax revenue sharing, 28E.39
Constitutional amendments, *see CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS*
Gambling, *see GAMBLING*
Historical preservation districts, establishment and termination, 303.20–303.25, 303.33
Public measures, *see PUBLIC MEASURES*
Quad cities interstate metropolitan authority, creation, 28A.1, 28A.5, 28A.6
Soil and water conservation districts, discontinuance, 161A.10
Telephone systems, emergency (E911), surcharges for, 34A.6, 34A.6A

REPRESENTATIVES, STATE
See GENERAL ASSEMBLY

REPRESENTATIVES, UNITED STATES
See CONGRESS

RUNOFF ELECTIONS
Cities, 376.9

SALES, SERVICES, AND USE TAXES
Local option, 422B.1
Quad cities interstate metropolitan authority, 28A.17

SANITARY DISTRICTS
Combined water and sanitary districts, 357.1A, 358.1A
Incorporation, question to voters, 358.1–358.8
Trustees, election, 358.9

SCHOOL DISTRICTS
General provisions, 39.3, ch 277, ch 278
Area schools, *see COMMUNITY COLLEGES*
Asbestos, removal or encapsulation, funding, 279.52–279.54
Boards of directors, *see subhead Directors below*
Bond issues
  General provisions, 75.1, 274.2, ch 296, 298.21
  Buildings, 279.39, 298.21
  Principal and interest, tax levy to pay, 298.18
  Special elections, 277.2
Bond tax, levy, 298.18
Books, *see subhead Textbooks below*
Boundary changes
  Description, filed, 274.4
  Directors, election, 275.25
  Proposition to voters, 275.11–275.13, 275.18, 275.20, 275.22–275.24
Buildings
  Bond issues, 279.39, 298.21
  Disposition, 278.1(2)
  Expenditures approved by voters, 291.13

SCHOOL DISTRICTS — Continued
Buildings — Continued
Lease-purchase, approval by voters, 278.1
Rental, approval by voters, 278.1
Roads, access to schoolhouses, obtaining, 278.1(6)
Taxes for, 279.39
Use, other than school purposes, forbidden by voters, 278.1(4), 297.9, 297.11
Canvass of vote, 277.20
Capital projects funds, transfer, 278.1(5)
Community colleges, *see COMMUNITY COLLEGES*
Contested elections, 277.22
Debt
See also subhead Bond Issues above
Bonded, principal and interest, tax levy, proposition to voters, 298.18
Contracting, question to voters, ch 296
Debt service fund, transfer, 278.1(5)
Directors
Candidates, *see CANDIDATES*
Contesting election, 277.22
Districts
Establishment, abandonment, or change, 278.1(8)
Redistricting, 275.23A
Method of election, 275.12, 275.25, 275.35–275.38, 275.41, 278.1(7)
Nomination, 277.4, 277.5
Oath, 277.28
Qualifications, 277.27
Term, 39.24, 274.7
Vacancies, filling, 277.29, 277.30, 279.6, 279.7
Dissolution, proposition submitted to voters, 275.55
Districts, directors', *see subhead Directors above*
Educational improvement program, 257.29
Hospitals, area, *see HOSPITALS*
Indebtedness, *see subhead Debt above*
Instructional support program, participation, 257.18, 257.27
Levies, *see subhead Tax Levies below*
Libraries, city, contract to use, termination, proposition to voters, 336.18
Libraries, tax levy for, discontinuance in reorganized districts, 298.7
Merged areas, *see COMMUNITY COLLEGES*
Name, changing, 278.1(9)
Officers, *see subhead Directors above*
Physical plant and equipment levy fund, transfer, 278.1(5)
Physical plant and equipment tax levy, 275.12(5), 275.20, 277.2, 298.2, 298.9
Property
See also subhead Buildings above
Disposition, 278.1(2)
Property taxes, *see subhead Tax Levies below*
Public educational and recreational activities, tax levy, question to voters, 300.2–300.4

SCHOOL DISTRICTS — Continued
Public education and recreation levy fund, transfer, 278.1(5)
Public measures, petitions to school districts for, validity, 277.7
Regular election
Proposals submitted to voters, authorized, 278.1, 278.2
Time of holding, 277.1
Reorganization, 275.11–275.13, 275.18, 275.20, 275.22–275.27
Roads, access to schoolhouses, obtaining, 278.1(6)
Schoolhouse fund, expenditure, approval by voters, 291.13
Schoolhouses, *see subhead Buildings above*
Special elections, 277.2
Tax levies
Asbestos, removal or encapsulation, 279.52–279.54
Buildings, 279.39, 291.13
Indebtedness, bonded, principal and interest payment, 298.18
Insurance, indebtedness, 296.7
Libraries, tax levy for, discontinuance in reorganized districts, 298.7
Physical plant and equipment levy, 275.12(5), 275.20, 277.2, 298.2, 298.9
Public educational and recreational activities, 300.2–300.4
Teachers' pension and retirement systems, establishment, 294.8
Textbooks
Changing, 278.1(1)
Free, providing, 301.24, 301.25, 301.27
Vacancies, 277.29, 277.30, 279.6, 279.7
Voter instruction, requirements, 256.11, 280.9A, 331.502
Voters, powers at regular election, ch 278

SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE
See also STATE OFFICERS
Election and term, 39.8, 39.9

SECRETARY OF STATE
See also STATE OFFICERS
Election and term, Const Iowa IV §22; 39.8, 39.9
Election commissioner and division, duties, 47.1

SENATORS, STATE
See GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATORS, UNITED STATES
See CONGRESS

SHERIFFS, COUNTY
See COUNTY SHERIFFS

SIGNS
See ADVERTISEMENTS

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS
Commissioners, election, 39.21, 161A.5, 161A.6
Discontinuance, referendum, 161A.10

SPECIAL ELECTIONS
Date, 39.2
Definition, 39.3
Notice, 39.6
Political subdivisions, 47.6
School districts, 277.2
Vacancies to be filled, 69.12, 69.14

STATE EMPLOYEES
Candidates for office, leave of absence, 55.4
Political activity, limited, 19A.18, 721.5

STATE OFFICERS
See also main heading for each specific state officer
Candidates, *see CANDIDATES*
Contested election, ch 61
Nomination, 43.6
Removal from office, ch 66
Terms, 39.9
Vacancies, filling, 69.8(2), 69.13

STREET LIGHTING DISTRICTS
Bonds, issue, 357C.10
Indebtedness, authorized, 357C.10
Tax levy, proposal to voters, 357C.7, 357C.9
Trustees, election, 357C.8

SUPERVISORS, COUNTY BOARDS OF
See COUNTY BOARDS OF SUPERVISORS

SUPREME COURT
Justices, *see JUDGES*

TAXES
Cities, *see CITIES*
Community clusters, tax sharing, referendum, 28E.39
Counties, *see COUNTIES*
Emergency medical services districts, cities, tax levy, 357G.8
Emergency medical services, optional taxes, 422D.1, 422D.5
Hotel and motel tax, 422A.1
Income tax, *see INCOME TAXES*

TAXES — Continued
Lake districts, benefited recreational, tax levy, 357E.8
Law enforcement districts
Benefited districts, tax levy, 357D.8
Unified districts, tax levy, 28E.22
Local option taxes, 422B.1
Property taxes, *see PROPERTY TAXES*
Racetracks, property tax exemption, extension, 99D.14
Sales, services, and use taxes, *see SALES, SERVICES, AND USE TAXES*
Schools, *see SCHOOL DISTRICTS*
Street lighting districts, tax levy, 357C.7, 357C.9
Vehicle tax, local, authorized, 422B.1

TELEPHONES
Emergency systems (E911), surcharges for, referenda, 34A.6, 34A.6A

TOWNSHIPS
Ballots, separate, 49.30
Bond issues, 75.1
Clerks
Election, 39.22
Vacancies, filling, 69.8(5)
Community commonwealths, 331.260–331.263
Halls, erection of, proposition to voters, 360.1
Hospitals, area, *see HOSPITALS*
Libraries, city, contract to use, termination, proposition to voters, 336.18
New townships, first election, 359.10–359.13
Officers
Candidates, affidavit required, 43.21
Residence requirement, 39.22
Vacancies, filling, 69.8(5)
Trustees
Election, 39.22
Vacancies, filling, 69.8(5)

TREASURER OF STATE
See also STATE OFFICERS
Election and term, Const Iowa IV §22; 39.8, 39.9

TREASURERS, COUNTY
See COUNTY TREASURERS

TRUSTEES
City health care facilities, 392.6
Drainage and levee districts, 468.327, 468.500–468.523
Emergency medical services districts in cities, 357G.9
Hospitals, *see HOSPITALS*
Land use districts, 303.49

TRUSTEES — Continued
Libraries, *see LIBRARIES*
Sanitary districts, 358.9
Townships, *see TOWNSHIPS*

UTILITIES
Cities, *see CITIES*

VACANCIES
Elections to fill, Const Iowa XI §6; ch 69

VEHICLE TAX
Local option, 422B.1

VIOLATIONS
Election day, prohibited acts, 49.107
Election officials, bribery and misconduct, 722.6, 722.7
Unlawful acts, 49.111

VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS
See COMMUNITY COLLEGES

VOTER REGISTRATION
General provisions, ch 48A
Agencies, 48A.19–48A.21
Cancellation, 48A.30
Challenges, 48A.14–48A.16
Changes, 48A.27
Charges, payment, 331.424
Citizenship rights restorations list, delivery to voter registrar, 914.6
Commission, state, 39.3, 47.8
Commissioners, county, 48A.3, 48A.35
Confirmation program, 48A.28, 48A.29
Deadlines, 48A.9
Driver's license stations, 48A.18, 48A.21
Expenses, payment, 331.424
Form, 48A.11, 48A.12
Income tax returns and booklets, voter registration forms with, 48A.24
Mail, registration by, 48A.8
Registered voter, 39.3
Registrar, state, 39.3, 47.7
Time limits, 48A.9

VOTERS AND VOTING
Absent voters, *see ABSENT VOTERS*
Assistance, 49.89–49.91
Blind persons, assistance, 49.90
Bribery, 722.4
Challenges, 49.79–49.81
Closing polls, 49.73
Disabled persons, assistance, 49.90
Disqualified persons, Const Iowa II §5; 48A.6
Electronic voting systems, *see ELECTRONIC VOTING SYSTEMS*
Eligibility, declaration of, 49.77
Eligible electors, 39.3
Employees
    Intimidation by employer, 49.110
    Leave time to vote, 49.109
Improper voting, 722.5
Instruction, schools required to give, 256.11, 280.9A
Marking ballot, 49.92–49.103
Method of voting determined, 49.26, 49.29
Opening polls, 49.73
Place of voting, 49.9
Preventing voting by force, 722.8
Primary elections
    Party affiliation change, 43.41, 43.42
    Party ticket, vote restricted, 43.38
Procuring vote by duress, 722.9
Qualifications, 48A.5
Registration, *see VOTER REGISTRATION*
Residency requirements, 48A.5, 48A.5A
Right to vote, Const Iowa II §1
Straight ticket, 49.94
Systems, alternatives, ch 52
Time limit, in voting booth, 49.88
Voting machines, *see VOTING MACHINES*
Write-in votes, *see WRITE-IN VOTES*

VOTING MACHINES
General provisions, ch 52
Ballots, form, 52.10
Electronic systems, *see ELECTRONIC VOTING SYSTEMS*
Examination, 49.127, 52.5
Examiners board, state, 52.4
Purchase, 52.2, 52.3, 331.427, 331.441(2b)
Use, 49.26, 49.27

WAGERING
See GAMBLING

WARDS
Cities, 49.3(4), 372.13(7)

WATER DISTRICTS
Combined water and sanitary districts, 357.1A, 358.1A
Establishing, proposition to voters, 357.12–357.16
Rural water districts, franchises granted by city, 357A.23
Subdistricts, establishing, 357.29
Trustees, election, 357.13

WRITE-IN VOTES
General provisions, 49.99
City elections, 376.11
Political subdivision offices, primary elections, 43.53
Primary elections, 43.66

ZOOS
Cities
Bond issues, 394.2
Use, contracts for, approval by voters, 394.4