

CHAPTER 201

REGISTRATION OF VOTERS

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201.01 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

201.01 **DEFINITIONS.** The words used in sections 201.01 to 201.27 have the meanings prescribed to them in chapter 200.

[1959 c 675 art 2 s 1]

201.013 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

201.02 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

201.02 **REGISTRATION, WHERE REQUIRED.** All municipalities having a population of 10,000 or more, all municipalities in which not less than 300 votes were cast in the last general election and in which any polling place is situated within 15 miles of the city limits of any city of the first class except those municipalities in which the number of votes cast in the most recent presidential general election is less than ten percent greater than the number of votes cast in the last preceding presidential general election, and any other municipality when the governing body of such municipality shall by ordinance or resolution elect to come within the provisions of sections 201.01 to 201.27, shall maintain a permanent system for the registration of voters, and the judges of election in any election precinct located in any such municipality may not receive the vote at any election of any person whose name is not registered in accordance with the provisions of sections 201.01 to 201.27, except as provided in section 204.075. A permanent system for the registration of voters once established under this section shall not be abolished or abandoned.

[1959 c 675 art 2 s 2; Ex1961 c 10 s 2; 1967 c 724 s 1; 1969 c 817 s 1]

201.03 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

201.03 **COMMISSIONER OF REGISTRATION, OFFICE CREATED.** The office of commissioner of registration is hereby created in all municipalities required by section 201.02 to have registration, and in any other municipality when the governing body of such municipality shall by ordinance or resolution elect to come within the provisions of sections 201.01 to 201.27. The clerk of each city, village or town is hereby constituted the commissioner under this section.

[1959 c 675 art 2 s 3; 1967 c 724 s 2]

201.04 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

201.04 **COMMISSIONER, COMPENSATION.** The commissioner may receive such additional salary as shall be fixed by the council for the municipality, and he shall retain the same notwithstanding any provision in the charter of such municipality to the contrary.

[1959 c 675 art 2 s 4]

201.05 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

201.05 **COMMISSIONER, DUTIES, HOURS.** The commissioner of registration shall have complete charge of the registration of all voters in the municipality. He shall provide such printed forms, blanks and other supplies and equipment as are necessary to properly carry out the provisions of sections 201.01 to 201.27. Sub-

ject to the provisions of sections 201.01 to 201.27, he shall prescribe such reasonable rules and regulations as to the hours during which his office shall be open and as to the places and manner of registration as may be necessary. The office of the commissioner shall remain open until 9:00 P. M. on the last registration day and for at least two days not including Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays immediately preceding the last registration day. For the purpose of issuing certificates of eligibility to vote pursuant to section 204.075, the office of the commissioner shall remain open during posted office hours during the 30 days preceding election, except for the day of election and the day preceding that day. He shall appoint such deputies, clerks, and other employees as may be necessary.

[1959 c 675 art 2 s 5; Ex1961 c 10 s 3]

201.06 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

201.06 REGISTRATION SYSTEM. Subdivision 1. **Establishment, files.** The commissioner shall immediately proceed to establish the registration plan provided for herein. He shall provide for an original record of voters, which shall be properly indexed, kept at the office of the commissioner and properly safeguarded. This record shall be known as the "original registration file" and may not be removed from the office except upon an order of a court of competent jurisdiction. The commissioner shall prepare a second file from the original registration file which shall be known as the "duplicate registration file."

Subd. 2. **Duplicate registration file, inspection.** Subject to reasonable rules and regulations, the duplicate registration file shall be open to public inspection, but no such public inspection shall be permitted or allowed that will disarrange the registration files. No person to whom a file of registered electors is made available under this subdivision and no person who acquires a list of registered electors prepared from such file may use any information contained therein for the purposes which are not related to elections, political activities, or law enforcement.

Subd. 3. **Registration system, council to provide facilities.** When any municipality shall hereafter come within the application of sections 201.01 to 201.27 the council shall immediately provide the commissioner with the necessary funds, equipment, and facilities, and the commissioner shall proceed to establish a place of registration and put the registration plan into operation without delay. In cities of the first class and of the second class, the city council shall establish at least one place of voter registration for each 30,000 people of its population or major fraction thereof according to the last federal census or other census authorized by law for a minimum of five days before the close of voter registration prior to each state wide primary occurring in the same year as a presidential election and before each general election. Such places of registration shall be distributed throughout the city so as to provide convenient access to registration.

[1959 c 675 art 2 s 6; 1965 c 486 s 1]

201.07 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

201.07 RECORDS. Subdivision 1. **Registration cards.** For the purpose of expediting the work of the commissioner, to promote uniformity in registration, and for the preparation of abstracts and other forms to be used by election boards, registration records shall be substantially as follows:

- (a) Suitable card index devices shall be provided;
- (b) Suitable index cards of six by four inches shall be provided;
- (c) The following information concerning such applicant shall be required and placed upon the index cards:

Precinct or ward and precinct where applicable,

Name of applicant in full, showing any change of name due to marriage, divorce, decree of a court, etc.,

Residence, showing exact location thereof,

Age,

Term of residence in state and precinct,

Nativity,

Citizenship and manner in which acquired,

Date of application,

Signature of voter,

School district of voter.

Subd. 2. **Prior registration, cancellation.** Every elector applying for registration shall be asked by the registration officer whether or not he is already regis-

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tered in another registration jurisdiction within the United States; and, if he is so registered, he shall sign an authorization to cancel his previous registration on a form substantially as follows:

(Side 1)

Date.....

TO Commissioner of Voters Registration

.....

.....

Dear Sir:

I am now registered for voting in the City of St. Paul, Ramsey County, Minnesota, and authorize the cancellation of my previous registration at

.....

(street address)

in.....

(city, village or township) (county)

..... I left.....

(state) (date of leaving)

X.....

(signature)

(Side 2)

Place
Stamp
Here

POST CARD

TO Commissioner of Voters Registration

.....

.....

The registration officer shall mail all such authorizations to the proper office of registration. Upon the receipt of such authorization from the forwarding municipality by a commissioner of registration within this state, the commissioner, upon a comparison of the elector's signature with his signature as it appears in the registration files, shall remove the elector's registration from the files. The commissioner shall keep the cancellation authorization for a period of no less than one year.

Subd. 3. Cancellation of registration upon issuance of certificate of eligibility. The person who issues a certificate of eligibility to an elector to enable him to vote in another place pursuant to section 204.075 shall thereupon have the elector's

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registration removed from the files.

[1959 c 675 art 2 s 7; Ex1961 c 10 s 4; 1969 c 636 s 1]

201.08 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

201.08 PRESENT REGISTRATION LISTS, SAVED. The registration lists in use in the several municipalities on January 1, 1960 shall be the official registration files subsequent thereto.

[1959 c 675 art 2 s 8]

201.09 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

201.09 DUPLICATE REGISTRATION FILE, FORM, DELIVERY. The commissioner shall deliver to the judges in each precinct the duplicate registration file for that precinct. Each card in the duplicate registration file shall be identical to the respective card in the original registration file, except that on the reverse side of each duplicate card shall be space for the record of voting and a space in which may be recorded any remarks or other information as may be required.

[1959 c 675 art 2 s 9]

201.10 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

201.10 CHANGE OF ADDRESS, NOTIFICATION. Change of address notices shall be provided by the commissioner, which shall be given out upon request, for the use of a registered voter moving to a new location. The form of such notice shall show the voter's last residence, the new residence, and a line for the signature of the voter, which signature shall be the same as that in the original registration file. Upon receipt of a change of address notice, but not less than 20 days prior to any election, the signature thereon shall be compared with that in the original registration file. If these signatures are not similar, the commissioner may not make an entry of such change of residence, and he shall send by mail to the applicant at his new address a postal card notice stating that such transfer was not made, together with the reason therefor. If these signatures are similar, the commissioner shall make proper entry of such change of residence on the registration files; and thereafter the applicant shall be qualified to vote in a new precinct. A voter removing from one place to another in the same precinct shall be once entitled to vote therein without filing a notice thereof.

[1959 c 675 art 2 s 10]

201.11 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

201.11 PRECINCT BOUNDARIES CHANGED, CHANGE OF FILES. When the boundaries of an election precinct in any such municipality shall be changed, the commissioner shall immediately change his registration files to correctly show the names of the voters who are residents therein.

[1959 c 675 art 2 s 11]

201.12 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

201.12 PROPER REGISTRATION, VERIFICATION BY MAIL, CHALLENGES. For the purpose of preventing fraudulent voting and eliminating excess names, the commissioner, at any time he deems it necessary, may send by mail to any voter whose name appears in the original registration file a notice that his name and address appear therein as indicated; and, if there is any mistake in the name or the address, the voter shall present the notice in person at the office of the commissioner and have the same corrected. Failure to do so or the return of the notice by the post-office to the commissioner shall be sufficient evidence to justify a challenge of his vote at an election, which challenge shall be signed by the commissioner. Upon the return by the post-office of any such notice, the commissioner shall direct a deputy or clerk in his office to personally ascertain the name and address of any such voter; and, if such voter is found to have removed from the address recorded in the original registration file, the commissioner shall cause to be affixed to the duplicate registration file card of the voter the word "challenged." No person so challenged shall be permitted to vote except by complying with all provisions of law applicable to the proving of challenges.

[1959 c 675 art 2 s 12]

201.13 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

201.13 LOCAL REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS, REPORT DEATHS TO COMMISSIONER. The local registrar of vital statistics in each county or municipality, as the case may be, shall report monthly to the commissioner the name and address of each adult person who has died while a resident in the registration jurisdiction since the last previous report of such registrar concerning such deaths made to the commissioner. Upon receipt of such report, the commissioner shall

examine the original and duplicate registration files and remove therefrom and destroy the registration cards of registered persons so reported by the local registrar as deceased.

[1959 c 675 art 2 s 13]

201.14 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

201.14 CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT, REPORT CHANGES OF NAMES.

The clerk of district court in each county in the state shall report monthly to the commissioner of each municipality in the county the name and address of each person, 21 years of age or over, residing in such municipality whose name shall have been changed during the month preceding the date of the report, by marriage, divorce or any order or decree of such court. Upon receipt of such report, the commissioner shall notify such voter by mail that it is necessary for him to re-register under such changed name in order to vote at an election.

[1959 c 675 art 2 s 14]

201.15 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

201.15 PROBATE JUDGE, REPORT GUARDIANSHIPS AND COMMITMENTS.

The judge of probate in each county in the state shall report monthly to each commissioner in his county the name, age and address of each person 21 years of age, or over, residing in such municipality, who has, during the month preceding the date of the report, been placed under a guardianship of the person, and each such person under guardianship of the person transferred to the jurisdiction of the probate court, or restored to capacity, and each person, 21 years of age, or over, adjudged legally incompetent by reason of mental illness, mental deficiency, or inebriation, or as a psychopathic personality, and each such person restored to capacity by the court. Upon receipt of such report, the commissioner shall examine the original and duplicate registration files; and, if such examination discloses that any of the persons named in such report as being under guardianship of the person, or as adjudged incompetent or a psychopathic personality, is registered, the commissioner shall remove the registration cards of such persons from the active files; and upon notice from the judge of probate of a restoration to capacity, the commissioner shall then process the person's registration card in the same manner as if no guardianship or adjudication had occurred.

[1959 c 675 art 2 s 15; 1961 c 697 s 1; 1967 c 839 s 2]

201.16 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

201.16 REGISTRATION CLOSED, TIME BEFORE ELECTION. The commissioner shall have 20 full days between the last day of registration and election day to perfect the registration files, and for that purpose 20 days before an election day shall be days upon which voters may not register. During these 20 days the commissioner shall complete the registration files and, on the day before election, shall deliver the duplicate registration file to each precinct. However, the commissioner shall issue certificates of eligibility pursuant to section 204.075.

[1959 c 675 art 2 s 16; Ex1961 c 10 s 5]

201.17 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

201.17 FAILURE TO VOTE, REGISTRATION REMOVED. Subdivision 1. **Not voting in four years.** At the close of each calendar year the commissioner shall check the registration file for the purpose of eliminating excess names; and, to that end, shall examine the registration file, and whenever it appears that a registered voter has not voted at an election, including a school election for which the voter registration list has been provided, at least once in four consecutive calendar years his card shall be taken from the original and duplicate registration file and destroyed, and a printed postal card notice of these facts, and that the voters must register in order to vote in the precinct at any ensuing election, shall be sent to the last known address of the voter.

Subd. 2. **Late absentee ballots, registration saved.** The county auditor in each county wherein any municipality has voter registration shall report to the commissioner of registration any absentee ballots received by the auditor and not counted for any reason in the election for which the ballot was intended, furnishing the name and address of such absentee voter, and when so reported the commissioner shall credit the voter with participation in such election for all purposes set forth in this section.

[1959 c 675 art 2 s 17; 1961 c 606 s 11; 1969 c 636 s 3]

201.18 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

201.18 ARMED FORCES MEMBERS, REGISTRATION SAVED. In the event

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that the applicant was registered but is not entitled to vote because he has failed to vote at an election at least once in any four successive calendar years wherein elections are held, if the applicant, or someone in his behalf, shall file an affidavit with the commissioner of registration, stating that on the date of any one election during such four-year period the applicant was a member of the armed forces of the United States, such affidavit shall operate as a re-registration, and entitle the applicant to vote.

[1959 c 675 art 2 s 18]

201.19 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

201.19 PERSONS ENTITLED TO BE REGISTERED. Every person residing in any precinct who has the qualifications of a voter, or who will have such qualifications at the next ensuing election, shall be entitled to be registered as a voter in the precinct in which he resides; provided, that those persons who have registered in accordance with the provisions of any act requiring the registration of voters which is in existence on January 1, 1960, shall not be required to re-register, but such registration shall be deemed a registration hereunder.

[1959 c 675 art 2 s 19]

201.191 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

201.20 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

201.20 REGISTRATION. Subdivision 1. Personal application. The commissioner shall, up to 20 days next preceding any election, receive the application for registration of such voters as personally appear for registration at his office, or at such other place as is designated by him for registration, who then are, or on the date of the election next following the day of making such application will be, entitled to vote. Any voter who applies for registration shall subscribe to the following oath or affirmation:

"Do you solemnly swear or affirm that you will fully and truly answer such questions as shall be put to you concerning your qualifications as a voter under the laws of this state?"

Upon being sworn, the applicant shall answer such questions as are required, as hereinbefore set forth, and the clerk shall fill out the form which the applicant shall sign, and he shall not be required to register again for any election except as provided in sections 201.01 to 201.27. In case a voter is unable to write his name, he shall be required to make a cross, which shall be certified by signing of the name of the applicant by the registration clerk taking the application. A voter who is unable to sign his name shall not be permitted to mail or hand in a change of address notice, as in sections 201.01 to 201.27 provided, but must appear in person to secure a change of his name to the registration file of his new voting precinct.

Subd. 2. Absent voters, application, affidavit. Any person entitled to vote at any election who is absent from the municipality in which he maintains his legal residence, or who by reason of physical disability or because of religious discipline is unable to appear in person at a registration office, may, up to 20 days next preceding any such election, make application in writing to the commissioner to have his name entered in the registration file of the precinct of his residence, by mailing to and filing with the commissioner his application and affidavit substantially in the following form:

"I,, being first duly sworn, on oath say I possess the constitutional qualifications of a voter in the State of Minnesota or will possess such qualifications on the day of the next ensuing election; that I reside at No.....(Street or Avenue), in the precinct in the ward in the city (or village or town) of; that I have not been and will not be present at a registration office to register personally, for the reason that; that I desire to be registered in such precinct; that my full name is; that I was born at..... on (month) (day) (year); I have resided in the United States for years and months in the State of Minnesota for years and months; and in such precinct for years and months and days; that I am able to read English; that at the last general election I resided at No.Street (or Avenue), in such municipality; (the following to be omitted if native born) that I am a naturalized citizen of the United States; that my final papers were issued by the (give court and place) on the (give date or other particulars)

(Signature)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this.....date of, 19..... ”

Subd. 3. Mailing of forms to registrant; return of papers. If an application form, as prescribed in subdivision 2, is requested by a registrant, the commissioner shall forthwith mail to the registrant an application form and original and duplicate registration cards. The application shall be filled out and signed and sworn to before an officer authorized to administer oaths and the original and duplicate registration cards signed by the registrant, and sworn to before an officer authorized to administer oaths, and returned to the commissioner who shall complete the filling out of the original and duplicate registration cards.

[1959 c 675 art 2 s 20]

201.21 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

201.21 REGISTRATION ADMINISTRATION, EXPENSES. The necessary expense in each municipality for carrying out the provisions of sections 201.01 to 201.27 shall be paid by such municipality, and the council thereof shall provide out of the current revenues of the municipality sufficient funds for that purpose, based upon the estimate prepared by the commissioner.

[1959 c 675 art 2 s 21]

201.22 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

201.22 ELECTRICAL-MECHANICAL REGISTRATION SYSTEM. The legislature of the state of Minnesota, recognizing that modern methods have created vast improvements in the keeping and handling of files and records of all types, and recognizing that such modern methods have resulted in economy in both labor and money, and desiring to empower the various municipalities to take advantage of the benefits of such modern methods, and without unduly limiting such municipalities, and in full faith that such municipalities will exercise the proper discretion in the adoption of the methods to be used, confers upon the municipalities the following powers:

(a) Any municipality may, by action of its council, provide for and adopt any modern mechanized or other system for the registration of voters and for maintaining and keeping current such mechanized or other registration systems.

(b) No such system shall be adopted which does not conform substantially to the provisions of sections 201.01 to 201.27 and all information, duplicate registration files, reports and other records required to be kept by sections 201.01 to 201.27 shall be incorporated in and maintained in the new system.

(c) When any municipality converts an existing registration system to such new system, it shall not be necessary for any voter who is duly registered to re-register on any form provided by the new mechanized method; provided however, that the pertinent information contained on such voter's original registration be microfilmed, photographed, or preserved by some other mechanical means and superimposed upon or made a part of any new card or record provided for the registration of such a voter.

(d) When any municipality converts an existing registration system to such a new system, as provided herein, all of the old records pertaining to votes and voters' registration shall be preserved and filed by the officer in charge of such registration records for a period of at least five years.

[1959 c 675 art 2 s 22]

201.23 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

201.23 REGISTRATION, CHALLENGE. Any person may challenge a registration at any time by filing a written challenge with the commissioner. The commissioner shall fix a time and place for hearing and notify all parties interested. At this time and place the matter shall be heard and determined by the commissioner, who shall file his written decision in his office within three days after the hearing. Either party may within ten days appeal from the decision to the district court of the county in which the municipality is located, and the appeal shall be heard and determined by the court within 30 days from the time of the filing of the appeal.

[1959 c 675 art 2 s 23]

201.24 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

201.24 REGISTRATION PERSONNEL, OATH. Each officer, deputy, clerk, or other employee shall, before entering upon his duties, subscribe to an oath in such form as shall be provided by the attorney for the municipality.

[1959 c 675 art 2 s 24]

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201.25 M.S. 1957 [Renumbered 201.28]

201.25 REGISTRATION PERSONNEL, ACTS PROHIBITED. No judge in any precinct located in any municipality may act as registration officer or clerk.
[1959 c 675 art 2 s 25]

201.26 M.S. 1957 [Renumbered 201.29]

201.26 RESIDENCE, DETERMINATION. The commissioner in determining the residence of any person desiring to register, shall be governed by the following rules, so far as they are applicable:

(a) The residence of any person shall be held to be in that place in which his habitation is fixed, without any present intention of removing therefrom, and to which, whenever he is absent, he intends to return;

(b) A person shall not be considered to have lost his residence who leaves his home to go into another state, or county in this state, for temporary purposes only;

(c) A person shall not be considered to have gained a residence in any county into which he has come for temporary purposes only, without the intention of making such county his home;

(d) If a person goes into another state with the intention of making it his residence, he shall be considered to have lost his residence in this state;

(e) If a person removes to another state with the intention of remaining there for an indefinite time as a place of residence, he shall be considered to have lost his residence in this state, notwithstanding he intends to return at some future time;

(f) The place where a man's family resides shall be considered his residence, but if it is a temporary establishment for his family, or for transient purposes, it shall not be so considered;

(g) If a man has his family living in one place and he does business in another, the former shall be considered his residence, but when a man has taken up his abode at any place with the intention of remaining there, and his family refuses to reside with him, then such place shall be considered his residence;

(h) The residence of a single man shall be considered to be where he usually sleeps;

(i) The mere intention to acquire a new residence, without the fact of removal, shall avail nothing, neither shall the fact of removal without the intention;

(j) No person employed temporarily for the purpose of cutting timber, or in the construction or repair of any railroad, canal, municipal, or other work of public nature, shall acquire a residence in any precinct into which he came for such purpose, but this provision shall not be held to extend to station agents or sectionmen who permanently reside in such precinct, and in determining the right of any person employed by railroad company or upon any public work to register, the commissioner shall be satisfied that he is a bona fide resident of the precinct and not there for temporary purposes only, and his unsupported affidavit shall not be held conclusive as to any fact necessary to entitle him to register;

(k) Any permanent inmate of a soldiers' home shall be considered a resident of the precinct in which the same is located.

[1959 c 675 art 2 s 26; 1961 c 564 s 1]

201.261 CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION OF SYSTEM BY MUNICIPALITY. Subdivision 1. It is the duty of the clerk of any city, village, borough, or town where there is a permanent system for the registration of voters under Minnesota Statutes 1961, Chapter 201, to certify, on or before September 1, 1965, to the secretary of state of the state of Minnesota, that there is such permanent system for the registration of voters in the municipality.

Subd. 2. It is the duty of the clerk of any city, village, borough, or town, which after May 7, 1965, adopts a permanent system for the registration of voters to certify to the secretary of state on or before 30 days from the date of the adoption of the permanent system for a registration of voters that a permanent system for the registration of voters has been adopted in the municipality and the date when such permanent system for the registration of voters will become operative.

[1965 c 340 s 1]

201.27 M.S. 1957 [Renumbered 201.30]

201.27 VIOLATIONS, PENALTIES. Any officer, deputy, clerk, or other employee who shall willfully fail to perform or enforce any of the provisions of sections 201.01 to 201.27, or who shall unlawfully or fraudulently remove any

registration card or record from its proper compartment in the registration files, or who shall wilfully destroy any record provided by sections 201.01 to 201.27 to be kept, or any person who shall wilfully or fraudulently register more than once, or register under any but his true name, or attempt to vote by impersonating another who is registered, or who wilfully registers in any precinct where he is not a resident at any time of registering, or who adds a name or names to the registration files, records or cards, or who violates any of the provisions of sections 201.01 to 201.27 is guilty of a felony.

[1959 c 675 art 2 s 27]

201.28 M.S. 1957 [Renumbered 201.31]

201.28 REGISTRATION IN CERTAIN MUNICIPALITIES. Any municipality now or hereafter having more than 7,000, and less than 10,000, inhabitants and an assessed valuation of more than \$8,000,000, or in which a registration system has been established, may join with any independent school district or town in which it is located, if the municipality is not separated from such town for purposes of election and assessment, or may join with both such independent school district and such town, in the creation of a combined system of permanent registration for the voters at all elections held in any such municipality, town or independent school district in the manner provided in sections 201.28 to 201.32.

[1939 c. 345 part 2 c. 4 s. 1] (601-2(4))

201.29 M.S. 1957 [Renumbered 201.32]

201.29 COMBINED REGISTRATION SYSTEM. The council of any such municipality and the governing board of any such school district or town, or both, as the case may be, may, by resolution, join in a petition to the district court of the county in which such municipal corporations are located, requesting the establishment of such combined registration system. Thereupon, the court shall appoint a competent person as commissioner and shall designate the place where the office of the commissioner shall be maintained and the files and records of such registration system shall be kept. The commissioner shall act under the supervision of the court and shall not be permitted to hold any other public office or employment. The court shall fix his compensation and authorize the employment of necessary clerical assistance. The commissioner may be removed or replaced at any time by the court in the public interest.

[1939 c. 345 part 2 c. 4 s. 2] (601-2(4)a)

201.30 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

201.30 DUTIES OF COMMISSIONER. The commissioner for such combined system shall have all the powers and duties and be subject to all the penalties and restrictions heretofore provided in this chapter for the commissioners in such municipalities. He shall maintain and keep regular office hours, during which times his office shall be open for registration and his records and files open to public inspection, as heretofore provided in this chapter for commissioners. All the provisions, requirements, and restrictions in this chapter applying to registration of voters shall apply to such registration in accordance with the provisions of sections 201.28 to 201.32; and, after such combined registration system is established, no person shall be permitted to vote at any election in any of such municipal corporations unless such person is registered in accordance with the provisions thereof.

[1939 c. 345 part 2 c. 4 s. 3] (601-2(4)b)

201.31 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

201.31 ELECTION DISTRICTS. Upon the establishment of such combined system of registration, that portion of the town or school district which is located within the municipality shall be divided into election districts which shall be identical and coterminous with the election districts of the municipality existing at the time this chapter becomes effective, and the voters already registered in such districts shall not be required to reregister. The municipal authorities shall deliver all of the existing registration lists, cards, and records of such municipality to the commissioner for such combined system. That portion of the town which is not located in any such municipality, and that portion of the school district which is not located in either the town or such municipality, shall be divided into separate election districts in such a manner as to provide the greatest convenience for the voters thereof, and such registration lists, cards, and records of this additional

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registration shall be kept separately and apart from the registration of any such municipality, and shall be used only for elections conducted either by any such school district or town, as the case may be.

[1939 c. 345 part 2 c. 4 s. 4] (601-2(4)c)

201.32 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

201.32 CONDUCT OF ELECTION. The council of any such municipality and the governing board of any such school district or town where such combined system of registration is in force shall, except as in this chapter provided, continue to have the same authority as they had before the passage of this chapter in the conduct of elections in their respective municipal corporations; and the expense of establishing and maintaining such combined registration system shall be shared equally by such municipality, town, and independent school district as shall have joined therein.

[1939 c 345 part 2 c 4 s 5] (601-2(4)d)

201.33-201.34 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

201.33 USE IN SCHOOL ELECTIONS. Upon the request of the board of education of any independent or special school district the commissioner of registration of any municipality shall make the registration system covering any precincts all or a portion of which are a part of the school district available for use in school district elections whenever its use by the school district will not prevent the use of the system in other elections. The commissioner may impose reasonable requirements to preserve the security and integrity of the system. The commissioner and the school district shall provide by agreement for the details of the use of the system by the school district. The school district may designate a member of its board or a subordinate employee as registration officer. The provision of section 201.16, shall apply to school district elections in which the provisions of this section are applied.

[1969 c 636 s 2]