

CHAPTER 210

PENAL PROVISIONS

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210.01 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

210.01 **DEFINITIONS.** The words used in this chapter have the meanings prescribed to them in chapter 200.

[1959 c 675 art 11 s 1]

210.02 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

210.02 **FALSE REGISTRATION.** Every person who causes or attempts to cause his name to be registered in more than one precinct, or in any precinct, knowing that he is not a qualified voter thereof, or who falsely represents himself to be a person other than he is, when attempting to register for the purpose of voting at any election, or when applying for a ballot or offering his ballot to be deposited in a ballot box, or when offering to vote by means of a voting machine or otherwise, whether the person he represents himself to be is living or dead, or a fictitious person, and every person who aids, abets, counsels, or procures any other person to do any of the acts herein mentioned, shall be guilty of a felony.

[1959 c 675 art 11 s 2]

210.03 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

210.03 **OFFERING DUPLICATE BALLOTS.** Every person who wrongfully delivers to a judge, to be placed in a box, more than one ballot of the same kind and color, or who fraudulently puts a ballot into any box, or who, not being a qualified voter, votes at any election with unlawful intent, or who votes more than once at the same election, or who procures, aids, assists, or advises another to go into any county, town or precinct for the purpose of voting, knowing that such person is not qualified to vote therein, shall be guilty of a felony.

[1959 c 675 art 11 s 3]

210.04 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

210.04 **BRIBERY.** Every person who wilfully, directly or indirectly, pays, gives, or lends any money or other thing of value, or who offers, promises, or endeavors to procure any money, place, employment, or other valuable consideration, to or for any voter, or to or for any other person, in order to induce any voter to refrain from voting, or to vote in any particular way, at any election, shall be guilty of a felony.

[1959 c 675 art 11 s 4]

210.05 M.S. 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

210.05 **ADVANCING MONEY UNLAWFULLY.** Every person who directly or indirectly advances, pays, contributes, furnishes, or pledges any valuable thing or consideration, or cause the same to be done, to or for the use of any other person, with the intent that such advancement, payment, contribution, pledge, or any part thereof, shall be expended or used in bribery at any election, or in fulfillment of any promised bribe, shall be guilty of a felony.

[1959 c 675 art 11 s 5]

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

210.06 **IMPROPERLY INFLUENCING OR COERCING VOTERS.** Every judge, officer, or other person, who, within or without any polling place, directly or indirectly uses or threatens to use any force, violence, or restraint, or causes or threatens to cause any damage, harm, or loss to any person, with intent to induce, or in any way attempts to induce or compel, such person, or any other person, to

vote or refrain from voting at any election, or to vote in any particular way, or who within any polling room, or in any booth or room connected therewith, or within 100 feet from the entrance to any such polling place, asks, persuades, or endeavors to persuade any person to vote for or against any particular candidate, party, or proposition, or who, by abduction, duress, or any fraudulent device or contrivance, impedes or prevents the free exercise of the franchise at any election, or who by any such means, compels, induces, or prevails upon any voter either to give or refrain from giving his vote at any election, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

[1959 c 675 art 11 s 6]

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

✓ 210.07 **DEFACING POLL LISTS OR REMOVING BALLOTS.** Every person who tears down, mutilates, defaces, or otherwise injures any file of names or card of instructions to voters posted or otherwise placed outside or inside of any polling place or booth by any board of registration or other official, or who, before the closing of the polls, removes from the polling place any ballots printed for use at such election, or any supplies or conveniences placed in or about any booth for the use of voters in preparing their ballots, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

[1959 c 675 art 11 s 7]

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

✓ 210.08 **DAMAGING ELECTION EQUIPMENT.** Every person who shall willfully take or carry away from any polling place, or deface, mutilate, damage, or add to any ballot, file, or election register or any name or figure therein, shall be guilty of a felony.

[1959 c 675 art 11 s 8]

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

✓ 210.09 **FAILURE TO DELIVER CERTIFICATE OF NOMINATION.** Every secretary of a delegate convention who fails or neglects to immediately deliver, to the officer charged with the printing of the ballots upon which the name of a candidate of such convention is to be placed, the certificate of nomination of such candidate, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

[1959 c 675 art 11 s 9]

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

✓ 210.10 **NEGLIGENTLY PRINTING BALLOTS.** Every person authorized to print, or employed in printing, official ballots, who knowingly gives or delivers any of such ballots to, or knowingly permits any of the same to be taken by, any person other than the official under whose direction they are being printed, or knowingly prints or causes or permits to be printed any ballot in a form other than that prescribed by law, or with any other names thereon, or with the names spelled or the names of officers arranged thereon in any way other than that authorized and directed by said official, shall be guilty of a felony.

[1959 c 675 art 11 s 10]

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

210.11 **DEFAMATORY CIRCULARS.** Subdivision 1. Every person who writes, prints, posts, or distributes, or causes to be written, printed, posted, or distributed, except by broadcasting, any circular, poster, or other written or printed matter containing false information with respect to the personal or political character or acts of any candidate, which is designed or tends to elect, injure or defeat any candidate for nomination or election to a public office, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

Subd. 2. Subdivision 1 shall not apply to a printer or manufacturer of campaign material whose sole act is the printing or manufacturing of campaign material and delivery to the person who orders it and who does not know such printed matter is false.

[1959 c 675 art 11 s 11; 1963 c 861 s 1]

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

✓ 210.12 **REFUSING EMPLOYEE ELECTION PRIVILEGE.** Every person who as principal or as an official or agent of any other person, shall directly or indirectly refuse, abridge, or in any manner interfere with any of the election privileges or immunities of any employee of himself or his principal, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

[1959 c 675 art 11 s 12]

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

✓ 210.13 **ONLY ELECTION OFFICIALS MAY HANDLE BALLOTS.** Every per-

son, except a judge, who during any canvass of votes shall handle, touch, or interfere with any of the ballots being canvassed, and every judge permitting the same to be done shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

[1959 c 675 art 11 s 13]

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

210.14 **MISMARKING BALLOTS; DISCLOSING HOW MARKED.** Every election official or other person who marks the ballot of any voter, except in the cases and in the manner provided by law, or who informs any person other than such voter how any such ballot was marked, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

[1959 c 675 art 11 s 14]

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

210.15 **NEGLECT OF OFFICIALS.** Every election officer or other person required by law to safely keep and produce on election day the ballots entrusted to him or to perform any other act, who wilfully fails or refuses to do the thing so required, or who is required by law to abstain from any act, and wilfully does such act, or who in either of such cases is guilty of any fraud, corruption, partiality or misbehavior in conducting or aiding in the conduct of any election, or in canvassing or making returns of votes, or who wrongfully refuses to make or deliver any certificate of election, or who falsely or corruptly performs any required act, the punishment whereof has not been otherwise expressly provided for by law, shall be guilty of a felony.

[1959 c 675 art 11 s 15]

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

210.16 **ELECTION MESSENGER'S FAILURE TO DELIVER RETURNS.** Every messenger appointed by authority of law to receive and carry a report, certificate, or certified copy of any statement relating to the result of any election, who shall wilfully mutilate, tear, deface, obliterate, or destroy the same, or do any other act which shall prevent the delivery of it as required by law, and every person who shall accept or take away from such messenger any such report, certificate, or copy, with intent to prevent its delivery, or who shall wilfully do any injury or act herein specified, shall be guilty of a felony.

[1959 c 675 art 11 s 16]

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

210.17 **UNLAWFUL EXPENDITURES.** Every candidate for nomination or election to a public office, who within ten days before any primary held to nominate, or to elect delegates to a convention called to nominate, a candidate for such office or who within 60 days before the election at which an incumbent is to be chosen for such office, directly or indirectly, gives or provides, or pays, wholly or partly, or promises to pay, wholly or partly, the expense of giving or providing any food, drink, or entertainment to or for any person with intent to corruptly influence such person, or any other person, to give or refrain from giving his vote at such election, or to vote or refrain from voting in a particular way, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

[1959 c 675 art 11 s 17]

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

210.18 **FILING STATEMENTS BY TREASURER.** Every treasurer or other person who receives any money to be applied to any of the election purposes for which expenditures are permitted by law, who fails to file the statement and account respecting the same required by chapter 211 within the time prescribed, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

[1959 c 675 art 11 s 18]

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

210.19 **FAILURE OF TREASURER TO KEEP ACCOUNTS.** Every such treasurer or other person who receives any money to be applied to the purposes aforesaid, who fails to keep a correct book of account containing all the statements and details required by law, with intent to conceal the receipt or disbursement of any sum of money received or disbursed by him or by any other person, or the purpose for which the same was received or disbursed, or to conceal the existence of any unpaid debt or obligation, or the amount thereof, or to whom the same is due, in detail, or who shall mutilate, deface, or destroy such book with like intent, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

[1959 c 675 art 11 s 19]

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

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210.20 FAILURE BY CANDIDATE TO FILE STATEMENT. Every candidate for nomination or election to any elective office except governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, secretary of state, state treasurer, state auditor, state senator and state representative, who intentionally fails to make and file the verified statement of moneys contributed, disbursed, expended, or promised by him, or by any other person, committee, or organization for him, so far as he can learn, in the manner, within the time, and with the details required by chapter 211, or who enters upon the duties of any such office, or receives any salary or emolument therefrom, with knowledge that such statement has not been filed, and every officer who issues a commission or certificate of election to any person with knowledge that such statement has not been so filed, is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

[1959 c 675 art 11 s 20; 1974 c 470 s 37]

210.21 CONTRIBUTIONS BY CORPORATIONS; PENALTIES. It shall be unlawful for any corporations organized for pecuniary profit that are the subjects of public supervision to make a contribution of moneys from its corporation funds to any political committee or to any person for the purpose of aiding in carrying on any political canvass for the nomination or election of any person or persons to any office whatever. Any officer, stockholder, agent or employee of any such corporation who shall take part in or consent to the making of a contribution of moneys or of any other thing of value contrary to the provisions of chapter 211 shall be fined not exceeding \$1,000 or be imprisoned in the state prison not exceeding one year, or both fined and imprisoned in the discretion of the court.

[1959 c 675 art 11 s 21; 1969 c 5 s 2]