

Elections

CHAPTER 200

DEFINITIONS

200.01 Citation, Minnesota election law.

200.02 Definitions.

200.01 MS 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

200.01 CITATION, MINNESOTA ELECTION LAW.

Chapters 200 to 211 are the Minnesota election law, and the words used in the Minnesota election law have the meanings prescribed in section 200.02.

History: 1959 c 675 art 1 s 1

200.02 MS 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

200.02 DEFINITIONS.

Subdivision 1. **Election.** The word "election" means any election except those held in any school district unless otherwise specifically provided by law, at which the electors of the state or any subdivision thereof nominate or choose by ballot public officials or decide any public question lawfully submitted to them.

Subd. 2. **General election.** The words "general election" mean the election provided to be held in the state on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November in every even-numbered year.

Subd. 3. **Primary, primary election.** The words "primary" or "primary election" mean an election held for the purpose of deciding by ballot who shall be the nominees for offices to be filled at an election.

Subd. 4. **Municipal election.** The words "municipal election" mean an election held in any municipality at which the electors of the municipality choose by ballot public officials for the municipality or decide any public question relating to the municipality lawfully submitted to them.

Subd. 5. **Special election.** The words "special election" mean an election held for a special purpose.

Subd. 6. **Special primary, special primary election.** The words "special primary" or "special primary election" mean a primary election held to select the nominees for the offices to be filled at a special election.

Subd. 7. **Political party.** The words "political party" mean an organization which shall have maintained in the state, governmental subdivision thereof or precinct therein in question, a party organization and presented candidates for election at the last preceding general election one or more of which candidates shall have been voted for in each county within the state at such election and shall have received in the state not less than five percent of the total vote cast for all candidates at such election or whose members to a number equal to at least five percent of the total number of votes cast at the preceding general election in the county where the application is made shall present to the county auditor a petition for a place on the primary election ballot.

Subd. 8. **Cities.** The words "statutory city" mean any city which has not adopted a home rule charter pursuant to the constitution and laws of this state; the words "home rule charter city" mean any city which has adopted such a charter.

Subd. 9. [Repealed, 1973 c 123 art 3 s 7]

Subd. 10. **Municipality.** The word "municipality" means any city or town.

Subd. 11. **Council.** The word "council" means the governing body of a municipality.

Subd. 12. **Judge.** The word "judge" means any judge of election.

Subd. 13. **Peace officer.** The words "peace officer" mean any sheriff, constable, policeman, or any citizen appointed and empowered to perform any of their duties.

Subd. 14. **Precinct.** The word "precinct" means an election district.

Subd. 15. **Voter.** The word "voter" means an elector qualified to vote at an election.

Subd. 16. **Polls, polling place.** The words "polls" or "polling place" mean the place of voting.

Subd. 17. **Convention.** The word "convention" means an organized body of delegates representing a political party assembled for the purpose of transacting such business as lawfully comes before it.

Subd. 18. **Contestant.** The word "contestant" means the person who begins any proceeding to contest the result of an election.

Subd. 19. **Contestee.** The word "contestee" means the person who is adverse to the contestant.

Subd. 20. **Senator.** The word "senator" means a member of the senate of this state.

Subd. 21. **Representative.** The word "representative" means a member of the house of representatives of this state.

Subd. 22. **Commissioner.** The word "commissioner" means the secretary of state of the state of Minnesota.

Subd. 23. **Election board.** The words "election board" mean the judges of election of an election precinct.

Subd. 24. **Term of office.** The term of office of every state and county officer shall begin on the first Monday in January next succeeding his election, unless otherwise provided by law.

Subd. 25. **Eligible voter.** (a) "Eligible voter" means a person who at the time of any election,

- (1) is 18 or more years of age,
- (2) is a citizen of the United States, and
- (3) has resided in Minnesota for 20 days.

(b) The following persons are not eligible voters:

- (1) Any person who has been convicted of treason or any felony, who has not had his civil rights restored;
- (2) Any person who is under guardianship over his person;
- (3) Any person who is adjudicated to be non-compos mentis or insane;
- (4) Any person who is not properly registered.

Subd. 26. **County auditor.** The words "county auditor" mean that officer or, in counties where that office does not exist, the principal county officer charged with duties relating to elections.

Subd. 27. **Political party member.** The words "member of a political party" mean a person who: (a) supports the general principles of a political party as stated in that party's constitution, (b) voted for a majority of that party's candidates in the last general election, or (c) intends to vote for a majority of a party's candidates in the next general election.

MINNESOTA STATUTES 1980

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DEFINITIONS 200.02

History: 1959 c 675 art 1 s 2; Ex1961 c 10 s 1; 1973 c 123 art 3 s 1; 1973 c 123 art 5 s 7; 1973 c 576 s 1; 1973 c 676 s 1,2; 1973 c 725 s 37; 1978 c 725 s 2

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