

## CHAPTER 201

## REGISTRATION AND ELIGIBILITY OF VOTERS

201.01	Definitions.	201.12	Proper registration; verification by mail; challenges.
201.014	Eligibility to vote.	201.121	Entry of names; mailed notice.
201.016	Residence requirements for voting; violations; penalty.	201.13	Report of deceased voters; changes to voter records.
201.018	Registration for voting.	201.14	Court administrator of district court, report changes of names.
201.021	Permanent registration system.	201.15	District judge, report guardianships and commitments.
201.022	Statewide registration system.	201.155	Report on felony convictions.
201.023	Voter registration.	201.161	Driver's license and identification card applications.
201.054	Methods of registering; prohibitions; penalty.	201.1611	Postsecondary institution voter registration.
201.056	Signature of registered voter; marks allowed.	201.1615	Information sharing; use of Social Security number.
201.061	Registration on or before election day.	201.162	Duties of state agencies.
201.071	Registration cards.	201.171	Posting voting history; failure to vote; registration removed.
201.081	Registration files.	201.195	Challenges.
201.091	Registered voter lists; reports; registration places.	201.211	Costs.
201.096	School elections; use of voter registration system.	201.221	Rules.
201.11	Precinct boundaries changed, change of files.	201.27	Violations, penalty.
		201.275	Investigations; prosecutions.

**201.01** MS 1957 [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

**201.01 DEFINITIONS.**

The definitions in chapter 200 apply to this chapter.

**History:** 1959 c 675 art 2 s 1; 1981 c 29 art 2 s 1

**201.013** [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

**201.014 ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE.**

Subdivision 1. **Requirements.** Except as provided in subdivision 2, an individual who meets the following requirements at the time of an election is eligible to vote. The individual must:

- (a) Be 18 years of age or older;
- (b) Be a citizen of the United States; and
- (c) Maintain residence in Minnesota for 20 days immediately preceding the election.

Subd. 2. **Not eligible.** The following individuals are not eligible to vote. Any individual:

- (a) Convicted of treason or any felony whose civil rights have not been restored;
- (b) Under a guardianship of the person in which the court order provides that the ward does not retain the right to vote; or
- (c) Found by a court of law to be legally incompetent.

Subd. 3. **Penalty.** Any individual who votes who knowingly is not eligible to vote is guilty of a felony.

**History:** 1981 c 29 art 2 s 2; 1986 c 444; 2003 c 12 art 2 s 2

**201.016 RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING; VIOLATIONS; PENALTY.**

Subdivision 1. **Determination of residence.** An eligible voter may vote only in the precinct in which the voter maintains residence. The residence of a voter shall be determined in accordance with section 200.031.

Subd. 1a. **Violations; penalty.** (a) The county auditor shall mail a violation notice to any voter who the county auditor can determine has voted in a precinct other than the precinct in which the voter maintains residence. The notice must be in the form

provided by the secretary of state. The county auditor shall also change the status of the voter in the statewide registration system to "challenged" and the voter shall be required to provide proof of residence to either the county auditor or to the election judges in the voter's precinct before voting in the next election. Any of the forms authorized by section 201.061 for registration at the polling place may be used for this purpose.

(b) A voter who votes in a precinct other than the precinct in which the voter maintains residence after receiving an initial violation notice as provided in this subdivision is guilty of a petty misdemeanor.

(c) A voter who votes in a precinct other than the precinct in which the voter maintains residence after having been found to have committed a petty misdemeanor under paragraph (b) is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(d) Reliance by the voter on inaccurate information regarding the location of the voter's polling place provided by the state, county, or municipality is an affirmative defense to a prosecution under this subdivision.

**Subd. 2. Duration of residence.** The governing body of any city by resolution may require an eligible voter to maintain residence in a precinct for a period of 30 days prior to voting on any question affecting only that precinct or voting to elect public officials representing only that precinct. The governing body of any town by resolution may require an eligible voter to maintain residence in that town for a period of 30 days prior to voting in a town election. The school board of any school district by resolution may require an eligible voter to maintain residence in that school district for a period of 30 days prior to voting in a school district election.

**History:** 1981 c 29 art 2 s 3; 1986 c 444; 1987 c 266 art 1 s 4; 1999 c 132 s 3,4; 1Sp2001 c 10 art 18 s 7

#### 201.018 REGISTRATION FOR VOTING.

Subdivision 1. [Repealed, 1984 c 560 s 26]

Subd. 2. **Registration required.** An eligible voter must register in a manner specified by section 201.054, in order to vote in any primary, special primary, general, school district, or special election held in the county.

**History:** 1981 c 29 art 2 s 4; 1986 c 475 s 2; 1987 c 266 art 1 s 5

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

201.02 MS 1971 [Repealed, 1973 c 676 s 33]

#### 201.021 PERMANENT REGISTRATION SYSTEM.

A permanent system of voter registration by county is established, with a single, official, centralized, interactive computerized statewide voter registration list defined, maintained, and administered at the state level that contains the name and registration information of every legally registered voter in the state, and assigns a unique identifier to each legally registered voter in the state. The interactive computerized statewide voter registration list constitutes the official list of every legally registered voter in the state. The county auditor shall be chief registrar of voters and the chief custodian of the official registration records in each county. The secretary of state is responsible for defining, maintaining, and administering the centralized system.

**History:** 1973 c 676 s 3; 1975 c 204 s 94; 1981 c 29 art 2 s 5; 1984 c 560 s 2; 1987 c 361 s 2; 2004 c 293 art 1 s 1

#### 201.022 STATEWIDE REGISTRATION SYSTEM.

Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** The secretary of state shall maintain a statewide voter registration system to facilitate voter registration and to provide a central database containing voter registration information from around the state. The system must be accessible to the county auditor of each county in the state. The system must also:

# MINNESOTA STATUTES 2004

1067

REGISTRATION AND ELIGIBILITY OF VOTERS 201.054

- (1) provide for voters to submit their voter registration applications to any county auditor, the secretary of state, or the Department of Public Safety;
- (2) provide for the definition, establishment, and maintenance of a central database for all voter registration information;
- (3) provide for entering data into the statewide registration system;
- (4) provide for electronic transfer of completed voter registration applications from the Department of Public Safety to the secretary of state or the county auditor;
- (5) assign a unique identifier to each legally registered voter in the state;
- (6) provide for the acceptance of the Minnesota driver's license number, Minnesota state identification number, and last four digits of the Social Security number for each voter record;
- (7) coordinate with other agency databases within the state;
- (8) allow county auditors and the secretary of state to add or modify information in the system to provide for accurate and up-to-date records;
- (9) allow county auditors, municipal and school district clerks, and the secretary of state to have electronic access to the statewide registration system for review and search capabilities;
- (10) provide security and protection of all information in the statewide registration system and ensure that unauthorized access is not allowed;
- (11) provide access to municipal clerks to use the system;
- (12) provide a system for each county to identify the precinct to which a voter should be assigned for voting purposes;
- (13) provide daily reports accessible by county auditors on the driver's license numbers, state identification numbers, or last four digits of the Social Security numbers submitted on voter registration applications that have been verified as accurate by the secretary of state; and
- (14) provide reports on the number of absentee ballots transmitted to and returned and cast by voters under section 203B.16.

The appropriate state or local official shall provide security measures to prevent unauthorized access to the computerized list established under section 201.021.

Subd. 2. **Rules.** The secretary of state shall make permanent rules necessary to administer the system required in subdivision 1.

**History:** 1987 c 361 s 1; 1988 c 646 s 1; 1990 c 585 s 2; 1995 c 233 art 2 s 56; 1Sp2001 c 10 art 18 s 8; 2004 c 293 art 1 s 2

## 201.023 VOTER REGISTRATION.

Amounts received by the secretary of state to pay the cost of producing lists of registered voters under section 201.091, subdivision 5, by the statewide registration system must be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the general fund.

**History:** 1988 c 646 s 2; 1990 c 585 s 3; 1990 c 594 art 3 s 8

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

201.03 MS 1971 [Repealed, 1973 c 676 s 33]

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

201.04 MS 1971 [Repealed, 1973 c 676 s 33]

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

201.05 MS 1971 [Repealed, 1973 c 676 s 33]

## 201.054 METHODS OF REGISTERING; PROHIBITIONS; PENALTY.

Subdivision 1. **Registration.** An individual may register to vote:

# MINNESOTA STATUTES 2004

(1) at any time before the 20th day preceding any election as provided in section 201.061, subdivision 1;

(2) on the day of an election as provided in section 201.061, subdivision 3; or

(3) when submitting an absentee ballot, by enclosing a completed registration card as provided in section 203B.04, subdivision 4.

**Subd. 2. Prohibitions; penalty.** No individual shall intentionally:

(a) Cause or attempt to cause the individual's name to be registered in any precinct if the individual is not eligible to vote;

(b) Cause or attempt to cause the individual's name to be registered for the purpose of voting in more than one precinct;

(c) Misrepresent the individual's identity when attempting to register to vote; or

(d) Aid, abet, counsel, or procure any other individual to violate this subdivision.

A violation of this subdivision is a felony.

**History:** 1981 c 29 art 2 s 6; 1986 c 444; 1987 c 361 s 3; 1990 c 585 s 4; 1999 c 132 s

5

## 201.056 SIGNATURE OF REGISTERED VOTER; MARKS ALLOWED.

An individual who is unable to write the individual's name shall be required to sign a registration card by making the individual's mark. If the individual registers in person, the clerk or election judge accepting the registration shall certify the mark by signing the individual's name. If the individual registers by mail, the mark shall be certified by having a voter registered in the individual's precinct sign the individual's name and the voter's own name and give the voter's own address.

**History:** 1981 c 29 art 2 s 7; 1986 c 444

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

**201.06** MS 1971 [Repealed, 1973 c 676 s 33]

## 201.061 REGISTRATION ON OR BEFORE ELECTION DAY.

**Subdivision 1. Prior to election day.** At any time except during the 20 days immediately preceding any election, an eligible voter or any individual who will be an eligible voter at the time of the next election may register to vote in the precinct in which the voter maintains residence by completing a voter registration application as described in section 201.071, subdivision 1, and submitting it in person or by mail to the county auditor of that county or to the Secretary of State's Office. A registration that is received no later than 5:00 p.m. on the 21st day preceding any election shall be accepted. An improperly addressed or delivered registration application shall be forwarded within two working days after receipt to the county auditor of the county where the voter maintains residence. A state or local agency or an individual that accepts completed voter registration applications from a voter must submit the completed applications to the secretary of state or the appropriate county auditor within ten days after the applications are dated by the voter.

For purposes of this section, mail registration is defined as a voter registration application delivered to the secretary of state, county auditor, or municipal clerk by the United States Postal Service or a commercial carrier.

**Subd. 1a. Incomplete registration by mail.** If the county auditor determines that a voter who has submitted a voter registration application by mail has not previously voted in this state for a federal office and has also not presented a document authorized for election day registration in section 201.061, subdivision 3, to the auditor, and the county auditor is unable to verify the voter's driver's license, state identification, or last four digits of the voter's Social Security number as provided by the voter on the voter registration application, then the county auditor must notify the voter that the registration is incomplete and to complete registration by using one of the following methods:

# MINNESOTA STATUTES 2004

1069

REGISTRATION AND ELIGIBILITY OF VOTERS 201.061

(1) presenting to the auditor more than 20 days before the election a document authorized for election day registration in section 201.061, subdivision 3;

(2) registering in person before or on election day;

(3) if voting by absentee ballot or by mail, following election day registration procedures for absentee voters as described in section 203B.04, subdivision 4; or

(4) providing proof of residence by any of the methods authorized for election day registration in section 201.061, subdivision 3.

Subd. 2. [Repealed, 1990 c 585 s 34]

Subd. 3. **Election day registration.** An individual who is eligible to vote may register on election day by appearing in person at the polling place for the precinct in which the individual maintains residence, by completing a registration application, making an oath in the form prescribed by the secretary of state and providing proof of residence. An individual may prove residence for purposes of registering by:

(1) presenting a driver's license or Minnesota identification card issued pursuant to section 171.07;

(2) presenting any document approved by the secretary of state as proper identification;

(3) presenting one of the following:

(i) a current valid student identification card from a postsecondary educational institution in Minnesota, if a list of students from that institution has been prepared under section 135A.17 and certified to the county auditor in the manner provided in rules of the secretary of state; or

(ii) a current student fee statement that contains the student's valid address in the precinct together with a picture identification card; or

(4) having a voter who is registered to vote in the precinct sign an oath in the presence of the election judge vouching that the voter personally knows that the individual is a resident of the precinct. A voter who has been vouched for on election day may not sign a proof of residence oath vouching for any other individual on that election day.

For tribal band members living on an Indian reservation, an individual may prove residence for purposes of registering by presenting an identification card issued by the tribal government of a tribe recognized by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, United States Department of the Interior, that contains the name, street address, signature, and picture of the individual. The county auditor of each county having territory within the reservation shall maintain a record of the number of election day registrations accepted under this section.

A county, school district, or municipality may require that an election judge responsible for election day registration initial each completed registration application.

Subd. 4. **Registration by election judges; procedures.** Registration at the polling place on election day shall be conducted by the election judges. The election judge who registers an individual at the polling place on election day shall not handle that voter's ballots at any time prior to the opening of the ballot box after the voting ends. Registration cards and forms for oaths shall be available at each polling place. If an individual who registers on election day proves residence by oath of a registered voter, the form containing the oath shall be attached to the individual's registration card. Registration cards completed on election day shall be forwarded to the county auditor who shall add the name of each voter to the registration system unless the information forwarded is substantially deficient. A county auditor who finds an election day registration substantially deficient shall give written notice to the individual whose registration is found deficient. An election day registration shall not be found deficient solely because the individual who provided proof of residence was ineligible to do so.

Subd. 5. **Unregistered voters; penalty.** No election judge in any precinct in which registration is required may receive the vote at any election of any individual whose name is not registered in a manner specified in section 201.054, subdivision 1 or not recorded under section 203B.19. A violation of this subdivision is a felony.

# MINNESOTA STATUTES 2004

Subd. 6. **Precinct map.** Except as otherwise provided by this subdivision, the county auditor shall provide each precinct with an accurate precinct map or precinct finder to assist the election judges in determining whether an address is located in that precinct. A county auditor may delegate this responsibility as provided in section 201.221, subdivision 4, to a municipal or school district clerk who prepares precinct maps as provided in section 204B.14, subdivision 5.

Subd. 7. **Record of attempted registrations.** The election judge responsible for election day registration shall attempt to keep a record of the number of individuals who attempt to register on election day but who cannot provide proof of residence as required by this section. The record shall be forwarded to the county auditor with the election returns for that precinct.

**History:** 1973 c 676 s 4; 1974 c 583 s 1,2; 1977 c 395 s 1,2; 1978 c 714 s 1,30; 1981 c 29 art 2 s 8; 1981 c 217 s 3; 2Sp1981 c 2 s 1; 1983 c 253 s 1; 1984 c 560 s 3; 1986 c 444; 1987 c 266 art 1 s 6,7; 1987 c 361 s 4; 1990 c 585 s 5; 1991 c 227 s 4; 1997 c 147 s 2; 2000 c 467 s 5; 2002 c 394 s 1; 2004 c 293 art 1 s 3-5

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

201.07 MS 1971 [Repealed, 1973 c 676 s 33]

## 201.071 REGISTRATION CARDS.

Subdivision 1. **Form.** A voter registration application must be of suitable size and weight for mailing and contain spaces for the following required information: voter's first name, middle name, and last name; voter's previous name, if any; voter's current address; voter's previous address, if any; voter's date of birth; voter's municipality and county of residence; voter's telephone number, if provided by the voter; date of registration; current and valid Minnesota driver's license number or Minnesota state identification number, or if the voter has no current and valid Minnesota driver's license or Minnesota state identification, the last four digits of the voter's Social Security number; and voter's signature. The registration application may include the voter's e-mail address, if provided by the voter, and the voter's interest in serving as an election judge, if indicated by the voter. The application must also contain the following certification of voter eligibility:

"I certify that I:

- (1) will be at least 18 years old on election day;
- (2) am a citizen of the United States;
- (3) will have resided in Minnesota for 20 days immediately preceding election day;
- (4) maintain residence at the address given on the registration form;
- (5) am not under court-ordered guardianship of the person where I have not retained the right to vote;
- (6) have not been found by a court to be legally incompetent to vote;
- (7) have not been convicted of a felony without having my civil rights restored; and
- (8) have read and understand the following statement: that giving false information is a felony punishable by not more than five years imprisonment or a fine of not more than \$10,000, or both."

The certification must include boxes for the voter to respond to the following questions:

"(1) Are you a citizen of the United States?" and

"(2) Will you be 18 years old on or before election day?"

And the instruction:

"If you checked 'no' to either of these questions, do not complete this form."

The form of the voter registration application and the certification of voter eligibility must be as provided in this subdivision and approved by the secretary of state. Voter registration forms authorized by the National Voter Registration Act may also be accepted as valid.

# MINNESOTA STATUTES 2004

1071

REGISTRATION AND ELIGIBILITY OF VOTERS 201.071

An individual may use a voter registration application to apply to register to vote in Minnesota or to change information on an existing registration.

**Subd. 2. Instructions.** A registration application shall be accompanied by instructions specifying the manner and method of registration, the qualifications for voting, the penalties for false registration, and the availability of registration and voting assistance for elderly and handicapped individuals and residents of health care facilities and hospitals. The instructions must indicate that if the voter does not have a valid Minnesota driver's license or identification card, the last four digits of the voter's Social Security number must be provided, unless the voter does not have a Social Security number. If, prior to election day, a person requests the instructions in Braille, on cassette tape, or in a version printed in 16-point bold type with 24-point leading, the county auditor shall provide them in the form requested. The secretary of state shall prepare Braille and cassette copies and make them available.

**Subd. 3. Deficient registration.** No voter registration application is deficient if it contains the voter's name, address, date of birth, current and valid Minnesota driver's license number or Minnesota state identification number, or if the voter has no current and valid Minnesota driver's license or Minnesota state identification number, the last four digits of the voter's Social Security number, if the voter has been issued a Social Security number, prior registration, if any, and signature. The absence of a zip code number does not cause the registration to be deficient. Failure to check a box on an application form that a voter has certified to be true does not cause the registration to be deficient. The election judges shall request an individual to correct a voter registration application if it is deficient or illegible or if the name or number of the voter's school district is missing or obviously incorrect. No eligible voter may be prevented from voting unless the voter's registration application is deficient or the voter is duly and successfully challenged in accordance with section 201.195 or 204C.12.

A voter registration application accepted prior to August 1, 1983, is not deficient for lack of date of birth. The county or municipality may attempt to obtain the date of birth for a voter registration application accepted prior to August 1, 1983, by a request to the voter at any time except at the polling place. Failure by the voter to comply with this request does not make the registration deficient.

A voter registration application accepted before January 1, 2004, is not deficient for lack of a valid Minnesota driver's license or state identification number or the last four digits of a Social Security number. A voter registration application submitted by a voter who does not have a Minnesota driver's license or state identification number, or a Social Security number, is not deficient for lack of any of these numbers.

**Subd. 4. Change of registration.** Any county auditor who receives a registration card indicating that an individual was previously registered in a different county in Minnesota shall notify the county auditor of that county electronically through the statewide registration system in the manner prescribed in the rules of the secretary of state. A county auditor receiving a registration card indicating that a voter was previously registered in a different precinct in the same county or receiving a notification as provided in this subdivision shall remove that individual's voter registration card from the files. Any county auditor who receives a registration card or notification requiring a change of registration records under this subdivision as a result of an election day registration shall also check the statewide registration system to determine whether the individual voted in more than one precinct in the most recent election.

Subd. 5. [Repealed, 1990 c 585 s 34]

Subd. 6. [Repealed, 1990 c 585 s 34]

Subd. 7. [Repealed, 1983 c 124 s 6]

**Subd. 8. School district assistance.** School districts shall assist county auditors in determining the school district in which a voter resides.

**History:** 1973 c 676 s 5; 1974 c 583 s 3,4; 1977 c 395 s 3; 1978 c 714 s 2,30; 1981 c 29 art 2 s 9; 1981 c 92 s 1; 1983 c 124 s 1-3; 1983 c 303 s 1; 1984 c 471 s 1; 1984 c 628 art 3 s 11; 1986 c 444; 1987 c 175 s 1; 1987 c 266 art 1 s 8,9; 1987 c 361 s 5; 1988 c 646 s 3; 1990 c 453 s 1; 1990 c 585 s 6,7; 1993 c 223 s 1; 1997 c 147 s 3; 2004 c 293 art 1 s 6-8

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

201.08 MS 1971 [Repealed, 1973 c 676 s 33]

#### 201.081 REGISTRATION FILES.

The statewide registration system is the official record of registered voters. The voter registration cards and the terminal providing access to the statewide registration system must be under the control of the county auditor or the public official to whom the county auditor has delegated the responsibility for maintaining voter registration records. The voter registration cards and terminals providing access to the statewide registration system must not be removed from the control of the county auditor except as provided in this subdivision. The county auditor may make photographic copies of voter registration cards in the manner provided by section 138.17.

A properly completed voter registration card that has been submitted to the secretary of state or a county auditor must be maintained by the secretary of state or the county auditor for at least 22 months after the date that the information on the card is entered into the database of the statewide registration system. The secretary of state or the county auditor may dispose of the cards after retention for 22 months in the manner provided by section 138.17.

**History:** 1973 c 676 s 6; 1976 c 223 s 4; 1978 c 714 s 30; 1981 c 29 art 2 s 10; 1987 c 361 s 6; 1990 c 585 s 8; 1993 c 223 s 2; 1997 c 147 s 4

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

201.09 MS 1971 [Repealed, 1973 c 676 s 33]

#### 201.091 REGISTERED VOTER LISTS; REPORTS; REGISTRATION PLACES.

Subdivision 1. **Master list.** Each county auditor shall prepare and maintain a current list of registered voters in each precinct in the county which is known as the master list. The master list must be created by entering each completed voter registration card received by the county auditor into the statewide registration system. It must show the name, residence address, and date of birth of each voter registered in the precinct. The information contained in the master list may only be made available to public officials for purposes related to election administration, jury selection, and in response to a law enforcement inquiry concerning a violation of or failure to comply with any criminal statute or state or local tax statute.

Subd. 2. **Corrected list.** By February 15 of each year, the secretary of state shall prepare the master list for each county auditor. The records in the statewide registration system must be periodically corrected and updated by the county auditor. An updated master list for each precinct must be available for absentee voting at least 32 days before each election. A final corrected master list must be available seven days before each election.

Subd. 3. [Repealed, 1990 c 585 s 34]

Subd. 4. **Public information lists.** The county auditor shall make available for inspection a public information list which must contain the name, address, year of birth, and voting history of each registered voter in the county. The telephone number must be included on the list if provided by the voter. The public information list may also include information on voting districts. The county auditor may adopt reasonable rules governing access to the list. No individual inspecting the public information list shall tamper with or alter it in any manner. No individual who inspects the public information list or who acquires a list of registered voters prepared from the public information list may use any information contained in the list for purposes unrelated to elections, political activities, or law enforcement. The secretary of state may provide copies of the public information lists and other information from the statewide registration system for uses related to elections, political activities, or in response to a law enforcement inquiry from a public official concerning a failure to comply with any criminal statute or any state or local tax statute.



# MINNESOTA STATUTES 2004

1073

REGISTRATION AND ELIGIBILITY OF VOTERS 201.096

Before inspecting the public information list or obtaining a list of voters or other information from the list, the individual shall provide identification to the public official having custody of the public information list and shall state in writing that any information obtained from the list will not be used for purposes unrelated to elections, political activities, or law enforcement. Requests to examine or obtain information from the public information lists or the statewide registration system must be made and processed in the manner provided in the rules of the secretary of state.

Upon receipt of a written request and a copy of the court order, the secretary of state must withhold from the public information list the name of any registered voter placed under court-ordered protection.

**Subd. 5. Copy of list to registered voter.** The county auditors and the secretary of state shall provide copies of the public information lists in electronic or other media to any voter registered in Minnesota within ten days of receiving a written request accompanied by payment of the cost of reproduction. The county auditors and the secretary of state shall make a copy of the list available for public inspection without cost. An individual who inspects or acquires a copy of a public information list may not use any information contained in it for purposes unrelated to elections, political activities, or law enforcement.

Subd. 6. [Repealed, 1983 c 303 s 24]

Subd. 7. [Repealed, 1983 c 303 s 24]

**Subd. 8. Registration places.** Each county auditor shall designate a number of public buildings in those political subdivisions of the county where preregistration of voters is allowed as provided in section 201.061, subdivision 1, where eligible voters may register to vote. At least one public building must be designated for each 30,000 residents of the county. At least one telecommunications device for the deaf must be available for voter registration information in each county seat and in every city of the first, second, and third class.

An adequate supply of registration cards and instructions must be maintained at each designated location, and a designated individual must be available there to accept registration cards and transmit them to the county auditor.

A person who, because of handicap, needs assistance in order to determine eligibility or to register must be assisted by a designated individual. Assistance includes but is not limited to reading the registration form and instructions and filling out the registration form as directed by the eligible voter.

**Subd. 9. Restricted data.** A list provided for public inspection or purchase, for jury selection, or in response to a law enforcement inquiry, must not include a voter's date of birth or any part of a voter's Social Security number, driver's license number, or identification card number.

**History:** 1973 c 676 s 7; 1974 c 55 s 1; 1976 c 223 s 1-3; 1977 c 96 s 1; 1977 c 395 s 4-6; 1978 c 714 s 30; 1981 c 29 art 2 s 11; 1984 c 471 s 2; 1985 c 31 s 1; 1986 c 444; 1987 c 175 s 2; 1988 c 646 s 4,5; 1990 c 585 s 9; 1991 c 227 s 5,6; 1991 c 349 s 28; 2004 c 293 art 1 s 9-11

**201.095** [Repealed, 1987 c 266 art 1 s 68]

## **201.096 SCHOOL ELECTIONS; USE OF VOTER REGISTRATION SYSTEM.**

The county auditor shall allow independent or special school districts to use the necessary portions of the statewide registration system for school district elections. The county auditor may impose reasonable requirements to preserve the security and integrity of the system. The county auditor and the school district shall provide by agreement for the details of the use of the system by the school district. The school board may designate a member of the board or an employee as registration officer. The provisions of this chapter and chapter 203B relating to registration of voters apply to school district elections in which the statewide registration system is used.

**History:** 1990 c 585 s 10

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

201.10 MS 1971 [Repealed, 1973 c 676 s 33]

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

#### 201.11 PRECINCT BOUNDARIES CHANGED, CHANGE OF FILES.

When the boundaries of a precinct are changed, the county auditor shall immediately update the voter records for that precinct in the statewide registration system to accurately reflect those changes.

**History:** 1959 c 675 art 2 s 11; 1973 c 676 s 8; 1981 c 29 art 2 s 13; 1993 c 223 s 3

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

#### 201.12 PROPER REGISTRATION; VERIFICATION BY MAIL; CHALLENGES.

Subdivision 1. **Notice of registration.** To prevent fraudulent voting and to eliminate excess names, the county auditor may mail to any registered voter a notice stating the voter's name and address as they appear in the registration files. The notice shall request the voter to notify the county auditor if there is any mistake in the information.

Subd. 2. **Challenges.** Upon return of any nonforwardable mailing from an election official, the county auditor or the auditor's staff shall ascertain the name and address of that individual. If the individual is no longer at the address recorded in the statewide registration system, the county auditor shall change the registrant's status to "challenged" in the statewide registration system. An individual challenged in accordance with this subdivision shall comply with the provisions of section 204C.12, before being allowed to vote. If a notice mailed at least 60 days after the return of the first nonforwardable mailing is also returned by the postal service, the county auditor shall change the registrant's status to "inactive" in the statewide registration system.

**History:** 1959 c 675 art 2 s 12; 1973 c 676 s 9; 1981 c 29 art 2 s 14; 1986 c 444; 1986 c 475 s 3; 1990 c 585 s 11; 1997 c 147 s 5; 1999 c 132 s 6

#### 201.121 ENTRY OF NAMES; MAILED NOTICE.

Subdivision 1. **Entry of registration information.** (a) At the time a voter registration application is properly completed, submitted, and received in accordance with sections 201.061 and 201.071, the county auditor shall enter the information contained on it into the statewide registration system. Voter registration applications completed before election day must be entered into the statewide registration system within ten days after they have been submitted to the county auditor. Voter registration applications completed on election day must be entered into the statewide registration system within 42 days after the election, unless the county auditor notifies the secretary of state before the 42-day deadline has expired that the deadline will not be met.

(b) Upon receiving a completed voter registration application, the secretary of state may electronically transmit the information on the application to the appropriate county auditor as soon as possible for review by the county auditor before final entry into the statewide registration system. The secretary of state may mail the voter registration application to the county auditor.

(c) Within ten days after the county auditor has entered information from a voter registration application into the statewide registration system, the secretary of state shall compare the voter's name, date of birth, and driver's license number, state identification number, or the last four digits of the Social Security number with the same information contained in the Department of Public Safety database.

(d) The secretary of state shall provide a report to the county auditor on a weekly basis that includes a list of voters whose name, date of birth, or identification number have been compared with the same information in the Department of Public Safety database and cannot be verified as provided in this subdivision. The report must list separately those voters who have submitted a voter registration application by mail and have not voted in a federal election in this state.

(e) The county auditor shall compile a list of voters for whom the county auditor and the secretary of state are unable to conclude that information on the voter registration application and the corresponding information in the Department of Public Safety database relate to the same person.

(f) The county auditor shall send a notice of incomplete registration to any voter whose name appears on the list and change the voter's status to "incomplete." A voter who receives a notice of incomplete registration from the county auditor may either provide the information required to complete the registration at least 21 days before the next election or at the polling place on election day.

**Subd. 2. Notice of registration; challenges.** The county auditor shall mail a notice indicating the individual's name, address, precinct and polling place to each registered voter. The notice shall indicate that it must be returned if it is not deliverable to the voter at the named address. Upon return of the notice by the postal service, the county auditor shall change the registrant's status to "challenged" in the statewide registration system. An individual challenged in accordance with this subdivision shall comply with the provisions of section 204C.12, before being allowed to vote.

**Subd. 3. Postelection sampling.** Within ten days after an election, the county auditor shall send the notice required by subdivision 2 to a random sampling of the individuals registered on election day. The random sampling shall be determined in accordance with the rules of the secretary of state. As soon as practicable after the election, the county auditor shall mail the notice required by subdivision 2 to all other individuals registered on election day. If a notice is returned as not deliverable, the county auditor shall attempt to determine the reason for the return. A county auditor who does not receive or obtain satisfactory proof of an individual's eligibility to vote shall immediately notify the county attorney and the secretary of state.

**History:** 1973 c 676 s 10; 1978 c 714 s 3,30; 1981 c 29 art 2 s 15; 1986 c 444; 1987 c 361 s 7; 1990 c 585 s 12,13; 1997 c 147 s 6; 2004 c 293 art 1 s 12

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

### 201.13 REPORT OF DECEASED VOTERS; CHANGES TO VOTER RECORDS.

**Subdivision 1. Commissioner of health, reports of deceased residents.** Pursuant to the Help America Vote Act of 2002, Public Law 107-252, the commissioner of health shall report monthly by electronic means to the secretary of state the name, address, date of birth, and county of residence of each individual 18 years of age or older who has died while maintaining residence in Minnesota since the last previous report. The secretary of state shall determine if any of the persons listed in the report are registered to vote and shall prepare a list of those registrants for each county auditor. Within 60 days after receiving the list from the secretary of state, the county auditor shall change the status of those registrants to "deceased" in the statewide registration system.

**Subd. 2. Deceased nonresidents.** After receiving notice of death of a voter who has died outside the county, the county auditor shall change the voter's status to "deceased." Notice must be in the form of a printed obituary or a written statement signed by a registered voter of the county.

**Subd. 3. Use of change of address system.** The county auditor may delete the records in the statewide registration system of voters whose change of address can be confirmed by the United States Postal Service. The secretary of state may provide the county auditors with periodic reports on voters whose change of address can be confirmed by the United States Postal Service.

**Subd. 4. Request for removal of voter record.** If a voter makes a written request for removal of the voter's record, the county auditor shall remove the record of the voter from the statewide registration system.

**History:** 1959 c 675 art 2 s 13; 1973 c 676 s 11; 1981 c 29 art 2 s 16; 1987 c 361 s 8; 1989 c 7 s 1; 1991 c 227 s 7; 1993 c 101 s 1; 1993 c 223 s 4,5; 1994 c 465 art 3 s 63; 1997 c 147 s 7,8; 1999 c 132 s 7; 2004 c 293 art 1 s 13

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

**201.14 COURT ADMINISTRATOR OF DISTRICT COURT, REPORT CHANGES OF NAMES.**

The court administrator of district court in each county shall report monthly to the county auditor the name and address of each individual, 18 years of age or over, who maintains residence in that county and whose name was changed during the month preceding the date of the report, by marriage, divorce or any order or decree of the court. Upon receipt of the report, the county auditor shall notify by mail each registered voter whose name was changed that it will be necessary to reregister under the changed name in order to vote.

**History:** 1959 c 675 art 2 s 14; 1973 c 676 s 12; 1973 c 725 s 38; 1977 c 395 s 7; 1981 c 29 art 2 s 17; 1986 c 444; 1Sp1986 c 3 art 1 s 82

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

**201.15 DISTRICT JUDGE, REPORT GUARDIANSHIPS AND COMMITMENTS.**

Subdivision 1. **Guardianships and incompetents.** Pursuant to the Help America Vote Act of 2002, Public Law 107-252, the state court administrator shall report monthly by electronic means to the secretary of state the name, address, and date of birth of each individual 18 years of age or over, who during the month preceding the date of the report:

(a) was placed under a guardianship of the person in which the court order provides that the ward does not retain the right to vote; or

(b) was adjudged legally incompetent.

The court administrator shall also report the same information for each individual transferred to the jurisdiction of the court who meets a condition specified in clause (a) or (b). The secretary of state shall determine if any of the persons in the report is registered to vote and shall prepare a list of those registrants for the county auditor. The county auditor shall change the status on the record in the statewide registration system of any individual named in the report to indicate that the individual is not eligible to reregister or vote.

Subd. 2. **Restoration to capacity.** Pursuant to the Help America Vote Act of 2002, Public Law 107-252, the state court administrator shall report monthly by electronic means to the secretary of state the name, address, and date of birth of each individual transferred from guardianship to conservatorship or who is restored to capacity by the court after being ineligible to vote for any of the reasons specified in subdivision 1. The secretary of state shall determine if any of the persons in the report is registered to vote and shall prepare a list of those registrants for the county auditor. The county auditor shall change the status on the voter's record in the statewide registration system to "active."

**History:** 1959 c 675 art 2 s 15; 1961 c 697 s 1; 1967 c 839 s 2; 1973 c 676 s 13; 1973 c 725 s 39; 1978 c 714 s 4; 1979 c 43 s 1; 1981 c 29 art 2 s 18; 1986 c 475 s 4; 1987 c 361 s 9; 1993 c 223 s 6; 1Sp1994 c 1 art 2 s 20; 1995 c 186 s 50; 1995 c 189 s 8; 1996 c 277 s 1; 1997 c 147 s 9; 1998 c 376 s 1; 2003 c 12 art 2 s 3; 2004 c 293 art 1 s 14

**201.155 REPORT ON FELONY CONVICTIONS.**

Pursuant to the Help America Vote Act of 2002, Public Law 107-252, the state court administrator shall report monthly by electronic means to the secretary of state the name, address, date of birth, date of sentence, effective date of the sentence, and county in which the conviction occurred of each person who has been convicted of a felony. The state court administrator shall also report the name, address, and date of birth of each person previously convicted of a felony whose civil rights have been restored. The secretary of state shall determine if any of the persons in the report is registered to vote and shall prepare a list of those registrants for each county auditor.

The county auditor shall change the status of those registrants in the appropriate manner in the statewide registration system.

**History:** 1997 c 147 s 10; 2004 c 293 art 1 s 15

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

**201.16 MS 1971** [Repealed, 1973 c 676 s 33]

### **201.161 DRIVER'S LICENSE AND IDENTIFICATION CARD APPLICATIONS.**

The Department of Public Safety shall change its applications for an original, duplicate, or change of address driver's license or identification card so that the forms may also serve as voter registration applications. The forms must contain spaces for all information collected by voter registration applications prescribed by the secretary of state. Applicants for driver's licenses or identification cards must be asked if they want to register to vote at the same time and that information must be transmitted at least weekly by electronic means to the secretary of state. Pursuant to the Help America Vote Act of 2002, Public Law 107-252, the computerized driver's license record containing the voter's name, address, date of birth, driver's license number or state identification number, county, town, and city must be made available for access by the secretary of state and interaction with the statewide voter registration system.

**History:** 1977 c 395 s 8; 1981 c 29 art 2 s 19; 1987 c 361 s 10; 2004 c 293 art 1 s 16; art 2 s 9

### **201.1611 POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION VOTER REGISTRATION.**

Subdivision 1. **Forms.** All postsecondary institutions that enroll students accepting state or federal financial aid shall provide voter registration forms to each student as early as possible in the fall quarter. All school districts shall make available voter registration applications each May and September to all students registered as students of the school district who will be eligible to vote at the next election after those months. A school district has no obligation to provide voter registration applications to students who participate in a postsecondary education option program or who otherwise reside in the district but do not attend a school operated by the district. A school district fulfills its obligation to a student under this section if it provides a voter registration application to the student one time. The forms must contain spaces for the information required in section 201.071, subdivision 1, and applicable rules of the secretary of state. The institutions and school districts may request these forms from the secretary of state. Institutions shall consult with their campus student government in determining the most effective means of distributing the forms and in seeking to facilitate election day registration of students under section 201.061, subdivision 3. School districts must advise students that completion of the voter registration application is not a school district requirement.

Subd. 2. **Student voter registration.** A copy of each completed voter registration form must be sent to the county auditor of the county in which the voter maintains residence or to the secretary of state as soon as possible. All completed voter registration forms must be forwarded no later than 21 days before the general election.

**History:** 1991 c 227 s 8; 1996 c 398 s 57; 2004 c 293 art 2 s 10

### **201.1615 INFORMATION SHARING; USE OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER.**

The secretary of state shall enter into an agreement with the commissioner of public safety to match information in the statewide voter registration system with information in the Department of Public Safety database to verify the accuracy of the information provided on applications for voter registrations.

The commissioner of public safety shall enter into an agreement with the commissioner of the United States Social Security Administration under section 205(r)(8) of the Social Security Act to allow the use of the last four digits of the Social Security number to be used to verify voter registration information, to ensure the

maintenance of the confidentiality of any applicable information disclosed, and to establish procedures to permit the department to use the information for purposes of maintaining its records.

**History:** 2004 c 293 art 1 s 17

#### 201.162 DUTIES OF STATE AGENCIES.

The commissioner or chief administrative officer of each state agency or community-based public agency or nonprofit corporation that contracts with the state agency to carry out obligations of the state agency shall provide voter registration services for employees and the public. A person may complete a voter registration application or apply to change a voter registration name or address if the person has the proper qualifications on the date of application. Nonpartisan voter registration assistance, including routinely asking members of the public served by the agency whether they would like to register to vote and, if necessary, assisting them in preparing the registration forms must be part of the job of appropriate agency employees.

**History:** 1987 c 361 s 11

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

**201.17** MS 1971 [Repealed, 1973 c 676 s 33]

#### 201.171 POSTING VOTING HISTORY; FAILURE TO VOTE; REGISTRATION REMOVED.

Within six weeks after every election, the county auditor shall post the voting history for every person who voted in the election. After the close of the calendar year, the secretary of state shall determine if any registrants have not voted during the preceding four years. The secretary of state shall perform list maintenance by changing the status of those registrants to "inactive" in the statewide registration system. The list maintenance performed must be conducted in a manner that ensures that the name of each registered voter appears in the official list of eligible voters in the statewide registration system. A voter must not be removed from the official list of eligible voters unless the voter is not eligible or is not registered to vote. List maintenance must include procedures for eliminating duplicate names from the official list of eligible voters.

The secretary of state shall also prepare a report to the county auditor containing the names of all registrants whose status was changed to "inactive."

Registrants whose status was changed to "inactive" must register in the manner specified in section 201.054 before voting in any primary, special primary, general, school district, or special election, as required by section 201.018.

Although not counted in an election, a late absentee ballot must be considered a vote for the purpose of continuing registration.

**History:** 1973 c 676 s 14; 1981 c 29 art 2 s 20; 1987 c 361 s 12; 1990 c 585 s 14; 1997 c 147 s 11; 2004 c 293 art 1 s 18; art 2 s 11

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

**201.18** MS 1980 [Repealed, 1981 c 217 s 11]

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

**201.19** MS 1971 [Repealed, 1973 c 676 s 33]

**201.191** [Repealed, 1959 c 675 art 13 s 1]

#### 201.195 CHALLENGES.

Subdivision 1. **Petition; hearing.** Upon petition filed with the county auditor, any voter registered within a county may challenge the eligibility or residence of any other

# MINNESOTA STATUTES 2004

1079

REGISTRATION AND ELIGIBILITY OF VOTERS 201.221

voter registered within that county. The petition shall state the grounds for challenge and be accompanied by an affidavit stating that the challenge is based on the challenger's personal knowledge. Within five days after receipt of the petition, the county auditor shall set a date for a hearing on the challenge and notify the challenger by mail. A copy of the petition and notice of the hearing shall be served on the challenged voter by the county auditor in the same manner as in a civil action. The hearing shall be held before the county auditor or the auditor's designee who shall then make findings and affirm or dismiss the challenge.

**Subd. 2. Appeal.** If a challenge is affirmed, the voter whose registration has been challenged may appeal the ruling to the secretary of state. The appeal shall be heard within five days but in any case before election day. Upon hearing the appeal the secretary of state shall affirm or reverse the ruling and shall give appropriate instructions to the county auditor.

**Subd. 3. Hearing procedures.** A hearing before the secretary of state shall be conducted as a contested case and determined in accordance with chapter 14.

**History:** 1981 c 29 art 2 s 22; 1982 c 424 s 130; 1986 c 444

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

**201.20** MS 1971 [Repealed, 1973 c 676 s 33]

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

**201.21** MS 1971 [Repealed, 1973 c 676 s 33]

## **201.211 COSTS.**

The office required to perform the functions and duties of this chapter shall bear the costs incurred. If these functions and duties are delegated to another office, that office shall bear the costs. The secretary of state shall pay the costs of operating and maintaining the statewide registration system. The secretary of state shall also pay the costs of preparing polling place rosters and master lists from the money appropriated for this purpose.

**History:** 1973 c 676 s 16; 1981 c 29 art 2 s 23; 1990 c 585 s 15

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

**201.22** MS 1971 [Repealed, 1973 c 676 s 33]

## **201.221 RULES.**

**Subdivision 1. Adoption of rules.** To implement the provisions of this chapter, the secretary of state shall adopt rules consistent with federal and state election laws.

**Subd. 2. Uniform procedures for counties.** The secretary of state shall assist local election officers by devising uniform forms and procedures. The secretary of state shall provide uniform rules for maintaining voter registration records on the statewide registration system. The secretary of state shall supervise the development and use of the statewide registration system to insure that it conforms to applicable federal and state laws and rules.

**Subd. 3. Procedures for polling place rosters.** The secretary of state shall prescribe the form of polling place rosters that include the voter's name, address, date of birth, school district number, and space for the voter's signature. The secretary of state may prescribe additional election-related information to be placed on the polling place rosters on an experimental basis for one state primary and general election cycle; the same information may not be placed on the polling place roster for a second state primary and general election cycle unless specified in this subdivision. The polling place roster must be used to indicate whether the voter has voted in a given election. The secretary of state shall prescribe procedures for transporting the polling place rosters to the election judges for use on election day. The secretary of state shall prescribe the

# MINNESOTA STATUTES 2004

form for a county or municipality to request the date of birth from currently registered voters. The county or municipality shall not request the date of birth from currently registered voters by any communication other than the prescribed form and the form must clearly indicate that a currently registered voter does not lose registration status by failing to provide the date of birth. In accordance with section 204B.40, the county auditor shall retain the prescribed polling place rosters used on the date of election for 22 months following the election.

Subd. 4. **County rules.** The county auditor of each county may adopt rules that delegate to the secretary of state or municipal officials in that county the duties assigned to county auditors by this chapter. Delegation of duties to the secretary of state requires the approval of the secretary of state. Delegation to a municipal official requires the approval of the governing body of the municipality. Delegation by the county auditor of the duty to accept registrations does not relieve the county auditor of the duty to accept registrations. Each delegation agreement must include a plan to allocate the costs of the duties to be delegated.

**History:** 1973 c 676 s 17; 1978 c 714 s 30; 1981 c 29 art 2 s 24; 1981 c 92 s 2; 1986 c 444; 1987 c 266 art 1 s 10; 1987 c 361 s 13,14; 1990 c 585 s 16; 2004 c 293 art 1 s 19,20

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

**201.23** MS 1971 [Repealed, 1973 c 676 s 33]

**201.231** [Repealed, 1981 c 29 art 7 s 39]

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

**201.24** MS 1971 [Repealed, 1973 c 676 s 33]

**201.25** MS 1957 [Renumbered 201.28]

**201.25** MS 1971 [Repealed, 1973 c 676 s 33]

**201.26** MS 1957 [Renumbered 201.29]

**201.26** MS 1980 [Repealed, 1981 c 29 art 7 s 39]

**201.261** [Repealed, 1973 c 676 s 33]

**201.27** MS 1957 [Renumbered 201.30]

## **201.27 VIOLATIONS, PENALTY.**

Subdivision 1. **Intentional violation.** No officer, deputy, clerk, or other employee shall intentionally:

(1) fail to perform or enforce any of the provisions of this chapter except subdivision 2;

(2) remove a registration card or record from its proper place in the registration files in a manner or for a purpose not authorized by law;

(3) destroy or make an unauthorized change to a record required to be kept by this chapter; or

(4) add a name or names to the voter registration files, records, or cards, except as authorized by law.

An individual who violates this subdivision is guilty of a felony.

Subd. 2. **Knowledge of violation.** A deputy, clerk, employee, or other subordinate of a county auditor or municipal or school district clerk who has knowledge or reason to believe that a violation of this chapter has occurred shall immediately transmit a report of the knowledge or belief to the county auditor or municipal or school district clerk, together with any possessed evidence of the violation. Any county auditor or municipal or school district clerk who has knowledge or reason to believe that a



# MINNESOTA STATUTES 2004

1081

REGISTRATION AND ELIGIBILITY OF VOTERS 201.275

violation of this chapter has occurred shall immediately transmit a report of the knowledge or belief to the county attorney of the county where the violation is thought to have occurred, together with any possessed evidence of the violation. The county auditor or municipal or school district clerk shall also immediately send a copy of the report to the secretary of state. A violation of this subdivision is a misdemeanor.

**Subd. 3. General penalty.** An individual who intentionally violates any provision of this chapter is guilty of a felony, unless a different penalty is specifically provided by law.

**History:** 1959 c 675 art 2 s 27; 1973 c 676 s 20; 1978 c 714 s 5,30; 1981 c 29 art 2 s 25; 1986 c 444; 1987 c 266 art 1 s 11; 1990 c 585 s 17

## 201.275 INVESTIGATIONS; PROSECUTIONS.

A county attorney who is notified by affidavit of an alleged violation of this chapter shall promptly investigate. If there is probable cause for instituting a prosecution, the county attorney shall proceed by complaint or present the charge, with whatever evidence has been found, to the grand jury. A county attorney who refuses or intentionally fails to faithfully perform this or any other duty imposed by this chapter is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall forfeit office. The county attorney, under the penalty of forfeiture of office, shall prosecute all violations of this chapter except violations of this section; if, however, a complainant withdraws an allegation under this chapter, the county attorney is not required to proceed with the prosecution.

**History:** 1978 c 714 s 6; 1981 c 29 art 2 s 26; 1986 c 444; 1988 c 578 art 1 s 2; 2004 c 277 s 2

201.28 MS 1957 [Renumbered 201.31]

201.28 MS 1971 [Repealed, 1973 c 676 s 33]

201.29 MS 1957 [Renumbered 201.32]

201.29 MS 1971 [Repealed, 1973 c 676 s 33]

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

201.30 MS 1971 [Repealed, 1973 c 676 s 33]

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

201.31 MS 1971 [Repealed, 1973 c 676 s 33]

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

201.32 MS 1971 [Repealed, 1973 c 676 s 33]

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

201.33 MS 1980 [Repealed, 1981 c 29 art 7 s 39]

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

201.34 MS 1974 [Repealed, 1975 c 204 s 106]