

SENATE FILE 135
BY HANSEN

(COMPANION TO LSB 1873HH
BY WARNSTADT)

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to ballot print size.

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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SF 135
STATE GOVERNMENT

1 Section 1. Section 49.53, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code
2 2001, is amended to read as follows:

3 The commissioner shall not less than four nor more than
4 twenty days before the day of each election, except those for
5 which different publication requirements are prescribed by
6 law, publish notice of the election. The notice shall contain
7 a facsimile of the portion of the ballot containing the first
8 rotation as prescribed by section 49.31, subsection 2, and
9 shall show the names of all candidates or nominees and the
10 office each seeks, and all public questions, to be voted upon
11 at the election. The sample ballot published as a part of the
12 notice may at the discretion of the commissioner be reduced in
13 size relative to the actual ballot but such reduction shall
14 not cause upper-case letters appearing on the published sample
15 ballot to be less than ~~five-thirty-sixths-of-an-inch-high-in~~
16 ~~candidates'-names-or-in-summaries-of-public-measures~~ ninety
17 percent of the size of the letters appearing on the actual
18 ballot as required by section 49.57. The notice shall also
19 state the date of the election, the hours the polls will be
20 open, the location of each polling place at which voting is to
21 occur in the election, the location of the polling places
22 designated as early ballot pick-up sites, and the names of the
23 precincts voting at each polling place, but the statement need
24 not set forth any fact which is apparent from the portion of
25 the ballot appearing as a part of the same notice. The notice
26 shall include the full text of all public measures to be voted
27 upon at the election. The notice shall also include notice of
28 testing required pursuant to sections 52.9, 52.35, and 52.38.

29 EXPLANATION

30 This bill amends Code section 49.53 to require that sample
31 ballots published in newspapers can be no less than 90 percent
32 of the actual ballot size required by Code section 49.57.

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