AN ACT concerning elections; relating to primary elections; requiring a
presidential preference primary election; changing the primary election
date for all primary elections to the first Tuesday following the first
Monday in May; amending K.S.A. 25-203, 25-205, 25-302a, 25-1115,
2108a, 25-2109, 25-21a01, 25-21a03, 25-2502, 25-26a03, 25-3801, 25-
3901, 25-4004, 25-4005, 25-4153a, 25-4501a, 25-4502, 71-1413, 71-
1414 and 71-1422 and K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 19-3505 and repealing the
existing sections; also repealing K.S.A. 25-4503, 25-4505, 25-4506,
25-4507 and 25-4508.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

New Section 1. All presidential preference primary elections
conducted pursuant to K.S.A. 25-4501a, and amendments thereto, shall be
conducted at the same time and in accordance with all applicable laws and
rules and regulations governing primary elections.

Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 19-3505 is hereby amended to read as
follows: 19-3505. (a) (1) Except as otherwise provided by this section, the
governing body of any water district to which this section applies shall be
a five-member board holding positions numbered one to through five,
inclusive. Each member shall be elected and shall hold office from the
second Monday in January succeeding such member's election until four
years thereafter and until a successor is elected and has qualified.

(2) The first election of members of the governing body of any water
district created after the effective date of this act July 1, 2023, shall be held
on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in August May of any
even-numbered year, at which time members shall be elected for terms
beginning on September 1 of the same year, and ending on April 30 of the
third year following the beginning of such term, to positions numbered
three, four and five. At such first election, members shall be elected for
terms ending on April 30 of the first year following the beginning of such
terms, to positions numbered one and two. Members first elected to
positions one and two shall have terms of approximately eight months.
Elections shall be held on the Tuesday following the first Monday in
November of each odd-numbered year for the member positions whose
terms expire in that year.
(b) From and after April 30, 1991, The governing body of the water district shall be composed of seven members. At the election held in 1991, positions numbered 1, 2, 6 and 7 shall be elected to four-year terms. At the election in 1993, positions numbered 3, 4 and 5 shall be elected to four-year terms.

(c) Elections shall be held on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November of each odd-numbered year for the positions which terms expire in that year. Members shall hold office from the second Monday in January following such member's election until four years thereafter and until a successor is elected and qualified. All elections shall be nonpartisan and shall be called and conducted by the county election officer. Laws applying to other local elections occurring at the same time and in the same locality shall apply to elections under this act to the extent that the same can be made to apply. Notice of the time and place of holding each election shall be published by the county election officer in a newspaper published in the county in accordance with procedures established in K.S.A. 25-105 and 25-209, and amendments thereto.

(d) In January, following each election, the board shall organize and not later than the second regular meeting following each election shall select from among its members a chairperson and a vice-chairperson. The vice-chairperson shall preside over any meetings at which the chairperson is not present. Vacancies occurring during a term shall be filled for the unexpired term by appointment by the remaining members. All members shall take an oath of office as prescribed for other public officials. The members of the board shall be qualified electors in the water district. Prior to accepting office, the water district shall obtain for each member-elect a corporate surety bond to the state of Kansas in the amount of $10,000, conditioned upon the faithful performance of the member's duties and for the true and faithful accounting of all money that may come into the member's hands by virtue of the office. Such bonds shall be filed in the office of the county clerk for the county in which the major portion of such water district is located after approval by the board of county commissioners of such county.

(e) Each member of the board shall receive a monthly salary in an amount determined by the board and shall be reimbursed for all necessary and reasonable expenses incurred in performing official assigned duties.

Sec. 3. K.S.A. 25-203 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-203.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b), The primary national, state, county and township election shall be held on the first Tuesday of August following the first Monday in May in even-numbered years for the nomination of all candidates to be voted for at the next following general election.

(b) In the year 1992, if new boundary lines are defined and districts
established in the manner prescribed by law for the offices of representative in the United States congress, senator and representative in the legislature of the state of Kansas, and member of the state board of education, on or after June 13, 1992, the primary national, state, county, and township election shall be held on August 25, 1992, for the nomination of all candidates to be voted for at the next following general election.

Sec. 4. K.S.A. 25-205 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-205.
(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the names of candidates for national, state, county and township offices shall be printed upon the official primary ballot when each shall have qualified to become a candidate by one of the following methods and none other:

(1) They shall have had filed in their behalf, not later than 12 noon, June March 1, prior to such primary election, or if such date falls on Saturday, Sunday or a holiday, then before 12 noon of the next following day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or a holiday, nomination petitions, as provided for in this act; or

(2) they shall have filed not later than the time for filing nomination petitions, as above provided, with the proper officer a declaration of intention to become a candidate, accompanied by the fee required by law. Such declaration shall be prescribed by the secretary of state.

(b) Nomination petitions shall be in substantially the following form:

I, the undersigned, an elector of the county of ______________, and state of Kansas, and a duly registered voter, and a member of ______________ party, hereby nominate ______________, who resides in the township of ______________ (or at number ________ on ______________ street, city of ______________), in the county of ______________ and state of Kansas, as a candidate for the office of (here specify the office) ______________, to be voted for at the primary election to be held on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in August May in ______________, as representing the principles of such party; and I further declare that I intend to support the candidate herein named and that I have not signed and will not sign any nomination petition for any other person, for such office at such primary election.

(HEADING)

Name of Street Number Name of Date of
Signers. or Rural Route City. Signing.
(as registered).

All nomination petitions shall have substantially the foregoing form, written or printed at the top thereof. No signature shall be counted unless it is upon a sheet having such written or printed form at the top thereof.

(c) Each signer of a nomination petition shall sign but one such petition for the same office, and shall declare that such person intends to
support the candidate therein named; and shall add to such person's signature and their residence, if in a city, by street and number (, if any), or, otherwise by post-office address. No signature shall be counted unless the place of residence of the signer is clearly indicated and the date of signing given as herein required and if ditto marks are used to indicate address they shall be continuous and clearly made. Such sheets shall not be cut or pasted together.

(d) All signers of each separate nomination petition shall reside in the same county and election district of the office sought. The affidavit described in this paragraph of a petition circulator as defined in K.S.A. 25-3608, and amendments thereto, or of the candidate shall be appended to each petition and shall contain, at the end of each set of documents carried by each circulator, a verification, signed by the circulator or the candidate, to the effect that such circulator or the candidate personally witnessed the signing of the petition by each person whose name appears thereon.

(e) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (g), nomination petitions shall be signed:

(1) If for a state officer elected on a statewide basis or for the office of United States senator, by voters equal in number to not less than 1% of the total of the current voter registration of the party designated in the state as compiled by the office of the secretary of state;

(2) if for a state or national officer elected on less than a statewide basis, by voters equal in number to not less than 2% of the total of the current voter registration of the party designated in such district as compiled by the office of the secretary of state, except that for the office of district magistrate judge, by not less than 2% of the total of the current voter registration of the party designated in the county in which such office is to be filled as certified to the secretary of state in accordance with K.S.A. 25-3302, and amendments thereto;

(3) if for a county office, by voters equal in number to not less than 3% of the total of the current voter registration of the party designated in such district or county as compiled by the county election officer and certified to the secretary of state in accordance with K.S.A. 25-3302, and amendments thereto; and

(4) if for a township office, by voters equal in number to not less than 3% of the total of the current voter registration of the party designated in such township as compiled by the county election officer and certified to the secretary of state in accordance with K.S.A. 25-3302, and amendments thereto.

(f) Subject to the requirements of K.S.A. 25-202, and amendments thereto, any political organization filing nomination petitions for a majority of the state or county offices, as provided in this act, shall have a separate primary election ballot as a political party and, upon receipt of
such nomination petitions, the respective officers shall prepare a separate state and county ballot for such new party in their respective counties or districts thereof in the same manner as is provided for existing parties.

(g) In any year in which districts are reapportioned for the offices of representative in the United States congress, senator and representative in the legislature of the state of Kansas or member of the state board of education:

(1) If new boundary lines are defined and districts established in the manner prescribed by law on or before May February 10, nomination petitions for nomination to such offices shall be signed by voters equal in number to not less than 1% of the total of the current voter registration of the party designated in the district as compiled by the office of the secretary of state.

(2) If new boundary lines are defined and districts established in the manner prescribed by law on or after May February 11, nomination petitions for nomination to the following offices shall be signed by registered voters of the party designated in the district equal in number to not less than the following:

(A) For the office of representative in the United States congress, 1,000 registered voters;
(B) for the office of member of the state board of education, 300 registered voters;
(C) for the office of state senator, 75 registered voters; and
(D) for the office of state representative, 25 registered voters.

(h) In any year in which districts are reapportioned for the offices of representative in the United States congress, senator and representative in the legislature of the state of Kansas or member of the state board of education:

(1) If new boundary lines are defined and districts established in the manner prescribed by law on or before May February 10, the deadline for filing nomination petitions and declarations of intention to become a candidate for such office, accompanied by the fee required by law, shall be 12 noon on June March 1, or if such date falls on a Saturday, Sunday or a holiday, then before 12 noon of the next following day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or holiday.

(2) If new boundary lines are defined and districts established in the manner prescribed by law on or after May February 11, the deadline for filing nomination petitions and declarations of intention to become a candidate for such office, accompanied by the fee required by law, shall be 12 noon on June March 10, or if such date falls on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, then before 12 noon of the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or holiday.

(i) Primary elections for candidates for municipal office shall be held
when otherwise required by law. The names of candidates for municipal
offices shall be printed upon the official primary ballot in odd-numbered
year elections and in even-numbered years when needed. Persons shall
become qualified to become a candidate by one of the following methods:

(1) They shall have filed, not later than 12 noon, on June 30, prior to such primary election, or if such date falls on a Saturday, Sunday or
a holiday, then before 12 noon of the next following day that is not a
Saturday, Sunday or a holiday, nomination petitions, as otherwise provided
by law; or

(2) they shall have filed, not later than the time for filing nomination
petitions, as above provided, with the proper officer a declaration of
intention to become a candidate, accompanied by the $20 fee required by
law. Such declaration shall be prescribed by the secretary of state as
provided in K.S.A. 25-21a03, and amendments thereto.

Sec. 5. K.S.A. 25-302a is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-
302a. (a) Any political party seeking official recognition in this state after
the effective date of this act shall file in its behalf, not later than 12 noon,
June 30, prior to the primary election held on the first Tuesday of
August following the first Monday in May in even-numbered years, or if
such date falls on a Saturday, Sunday or a holiday, then before 12 noon of
the next following day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or a holiday, petitions
signed by qualified electors equal in number to at least 2% of the total vote
cast for all candidates for the office of governor in the state in the last
preceding general election. Such petitions shall declare support for the
official recognition of a political party, the name of which shall be stated in
the declaration. No political party seeking official recognition shall assume
a name or designation which, in the opinion of the secretary of state, is
unreasonably lengthy or so similar to the name or designation of an
existing political party as to confuse or mislead the voters at an election.

(b) Petitions seeking official recognition of a political party shall be
substantially in the following form:

PETITION SEEKING THE OFFICIAL RECOGNITION OF THE
____________________ PARTY IN THE STATE OF KANSAS

I, the undersigned, hereby declare my support for the official
recognition of the ____________________ Party.

I have personally signed this petition; I am a registered elector of the
state of Kansas and the County of _________________, and my residence
address is correctly written after my name.

NAME OF SIGNER ADDRESS AS REGISTERED CITY DATE OF
SIGNING

(c) Appended to each petition page or set of pages shall be an
affidavit by the petition circulator as defined in K.S.A. 25-3608, and
amendments thereto, of the petition affirming that such circulator
personally witnessed the signing of the petition by each person whose name appears thereon. The affidavit shall be executed before a person authorized to administer oaths and include the address of the circulator.

(d) Each page of such petition shall bear the names of registered voters of a single county. All petitions shall be grouped according to the county in which each was circulated before being filed with the secretary of state. All such petitions shall be filed at one time. Any related petitions presented thereafter will be deemed to be separate and not a part of earlier filings. County election officers shall cooperate with the secretary of state in verifying the sufficiency of these petitions as required by law.

(e) The secretary of state shall transmit such petitions to the county election officer of each county for which petitions were presented to be examined for sufficiency pursuant to the provisions of K.S.A. 25-3601 et seq., and amendments thereto, and applicable regulations. Not more than 20 days following receipt of such petitions from the secretary of state, the county election officer shall return these documents to the secretary of state certifying the number of sufficient signatures thereon. The secretary of state shall gather all petitions and determine whether a sufficient number of signatures was submitted. The secretary of state shall forthwith notify the person who submitted the declaration of intent to circulate such petitions of the sufficiency or insufficiency of the number of signatures.

Sec. 6. K.S.A. 25-1115 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-1115. (a) "General election" means the elections held on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November of both even-numbered and odd-numbered years, and in the case of special elections to any office to fill vacancies, the election at which any such officer is finally elected.

(b) "Primary election" means the elections held on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in August of both even-numbered and odd-numbered years, and any other preliminary election at which part of the candidates for special election to any national, state, county, city, school or other municipal office are eliminated by the process of the election but at which no officer is finally elected.

Sec. 7. K.S.A. 25-1122 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-1122. (a) Any registered voter may file with the county election officer where the person is a resident, or where the person is authorized by law to vote as a former precinct resident, an application for an advance voting ballot. The signed application shall be transmitted only to the county election officer by personal delivery, mail, facsimile or as otherwise provided by law.

(b) If the registered voter is applying for an advance voting ballot to be transmitted in person, the voter shall provide identification pursuant to K.S.A. 25-2908, and amendments thereto.

(c) If the registered voter is applying for an advance voting ballot to
be transmitted by mail, the voter shall provide with the application for an
advance voting ballot the voter's current and valid Kansas driver's license
number, nondriver's identification card number or a photocopy of any
other identification provided by K.S.A. 25-2908, and amendments thereto.
(d) A voter may vote a provisional ballot according to K.S.A. 25-409,
and amendments thereto, if:
(1) The voter is unable or refuses to provide current and valid
identification; or
(2) the name and address of the voter provided on the application for
an advance voting ballot do not match the voter's name and address on the
registration book. The voter shall provide a valid form of identification as
defined in K.S.A. 25-2908, and amendments thereto, to the county election
officer in person or provide a copy by mail or electronic means before the
meeting of the county board of canvassers. At the meeting of the county
board of canvassers the county election officer shall present copies of
identification received from provisional voters and the corresponding
provisional ballots. If the county board of canvassers determines that a
voter's identification is valid and the provisional ballot was properly cast,
the ballot shall be counted.
(e) No county election officer shall provide an advance voting ballot
to a person who is requesting an advance voting ballot to be transmitted by
mail unless:
(1) The county election official verifies that the signature of the
person matches that on file in the county voter registration records, except
that verification of the voter's signature shall not be required if a voter has
a disability preventing the voter from signing. Signature verification may
occur by electronic device or by human inspection. In the event that the
signature of a person who is requesting an advance voting ballot does not
match that on file, the county election officer shall attempt to contact the
person and shall offer the person another opportunity to provide the
person's signature for the purposes of verifying the person's identity. If the
county election officer is unable to reach the person, the county election
officer may transmit a provisional ballot, however, such provisional ballot
may not be counted unless a signature is included therewith that can be
verified; and
(2) the person provides such person's full Kansas driver's license
number, Kansas nondriver's identification card number issued by the
division of vehicles, or submits such person's application for an advance
voting ballot and a copy of identification provided by K.S.A. 25-2908, and
amendments thereto, to the county election officer for verification. If a
person applies for an advance voting ballot to be transmitted by mail but
fails to provide identification pursuant to this subsection or the
identification of the person cannot be verified by the county election
officer, the county election officer shall provide information to the person regarding the voter rights provisions of subsection (d) and shall provide the person an opportunity to provide identification pursuant to this subsection. For the purposes of this act, Kansas state offices and offices of any subdivision of the state will allow any person seeking to vote by an advance voting ballot the use of a photocopying device to make one photocopy of an identification document at no cost.

(f) Applications for advance voting ballots to be transmitted to the voter by mail shall be filed only at the following times:

(1) For the primary election occurring on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in August in both even-numbered and odd-numbered years, between April 1 of such year and the Tuesday of the week preceding such primary election.

(2) For the general election occurring on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November in both even-numbered and odd-numbered years, between 90 days prior to such election and the Tuesday of the week preceding such general election.

(3) For question submitted elections occurring on the date of a primary or general election, the same as is provided for ballots for election of officers at such election.

(4) For question submitted elections not occurring on the date of a primary or general election, between the time of the first published notice thereof and the Tuesday of the week preceding such question submitted election, except that if the question submitted election is held on a day other than a Tuesday, the final date for mailing of advance voting ballots shall be one week before such election.

(5) For any special election of officers, at such time as is specified by the secretary of state.

The county election officer of any county may receive applications prior to the time specified in this subsection and hold such applications until the beginning of the prescribed application period. Such applications shall be treated as filed on that date.

(g) Unless an earlier date is designated by the county election office, applications for advance voting ballots transmitted to the voter in person in the office of the county election officer shall be filed on the Tuesday next preceding the election and on each subsequent business day until no later than 12 noon on the day preceding such election. If the county election officer so provides, applications for advance voting ballots transmitted to the voter in person in the office of the county election officer also may be filed on the Saturday preceding the election. Upon receipt of any such properly executed application, the county election officer shall deliver to the voter such ballots and instructions as are provided for in this act.

An application for an advance voting ballot filed by a voter who has a
temporary illness or disability or who is not proficient in reading the
English language or by a person rendering assistance to such voter may be
filed during the regular advance ballot application periods until the close
of the polls on election day.

The county election officer may designate places other than the central
county election office as satellite advance voting sites. At any satellite
advance voting site, a registered voter may obtain an application for
advance voting ballots. Ballots and instructions shall be delivered to the
voter in the same manner and subject to the same limitations as otherwise
provided by this subsection.

(h) Any person having a permanent disability or an illness that has
been diagnosed as a permanent illness is hereby authorized to make an
application for permanent advance voting status. Applications for
permanent advance voting status shall be in the form and contain such
information as is required for application for advance voting ballots and
also shall contain information that establishes the voter's right to
permanent advance voting status.

(i) On receipt of any application filed under the provisions of this
section, the county election officer shall prepare and maintain in such
officer's office a list of the names of all persons who have filed such
applications, together with their correct post office address and the
precinct, ward, township or voting area in which the persons claim to be
registered voters or to be authorized by law to vote as former precinct
residents and the present resident address of each applicant. Names and
addresses shall remain so listed until the day of such election. The county
election officer shall maintain a separate listing of the names and addresses
of persons qualifying for permanent advance voting status. All such lists
shall be available for inspection upon request in compliance with this
subsection by any registered voter during regular business hours. The county
election officer upon receipt of the applications shall enter upon a
record kept by such officer the name and address of each applicant, which
record shall conform to the list above required. Before inspection of any
advance voting ballot application list, the person desiring to make the
inspection shall provide to the county election officer identification in the
form of driver's license or other reliable identification and shall sign a log
book or application form maintained by the officer stating the person's
name and address and showing the date and time of inspection. All records
made by the county election officer shall be subject to public inspection,
except that the voter identification information required by subsections (b)
and (c) and the identifying number on ballots and ballot envelopes and
records of such numbers shall not be made public.

(j) If a person on the permanent advance voting list fails to vote in
four consecutive general elections held on the Tuesday succeeding the first
Monday in November of each even-numbered and odd-numbered year, the county election officer may mail a notice to such voter. The notice shall inform the voter that the voter's name will be removed from the permanent advance voting list unless the voter renews the application for permanent advance voting status within 30 days after the notice is mailed. If the voter fails to renew such application, the county election officer shall remove the voter's name from the permanent advance voting list. Failure to renew the application for permanent advance voting status shall not result in removal of the voter's name from the voter registration list.

(k) (1) Any person who solicits by mail a registered voter to file an application for an advance voting ballot and includes an application for an advance voting ballot in such mailing shall include on the exterior of such mailing, and on each page contained therein, except the application, a clear and conspicuous label in 14-point font or larger that includes:

(A) The name of the individual or organization that caused such solicitation to be mailed;
(B) if an organization, the name of the president, chief executive officer or executive director of such organization;
(C) the address of such individual or organization; and
(D) the following statement: "Disclosure: This is not a government mailing. It is from a private individual or organization."

(2) The application for an advance voting ballot included in such mailing shall be the official application for advance ballot by mail provided by the secretary of state. No portion of such application shall be completed prior to mailing such application to the registered voter.

(3) An application for an advance voting ballot shall include an envelope addressed to the appropriate county election office for the mailing of such application. In no case shall the person who mails the application to the voter direct that the completed application be returned to such person.

(4) The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to:
(A) The secretary of state or any election official or county election office; or
(B) the official protection and advocacy for voting access agency for this state as designated pursuant to the federal Help America Vote Act of 2002, public law 107-252, or any other entity required to provide information concerning elections and voting procedures by federal law.

(5) A violation of this subsection is a class C nonperson misdemeanor.

(l) (1) No person shall mail or cause to be mailed an application for an advance voting ballot, unless such person is a resident of this state or is otherwise domiciled in this state.

(2) Any individual may file a complaint in writing with the attorney
general alleging a violation of this subsection. Such complaint shall include the name of the person alleged to have violated this subsection and any other information as required by the attorney general. Upon receipt of a complaint, the attorney general shall investigate and may file an action against any person found to have violated this subsection.

(3) Any person who violates the provisions of this subsection is subject to a civil penalty of $20. Each instance in which a person mails an application for an advance voting ballot in violation of this section shall constitute a separate violation.

(m) The secretary of state may adopt rules and regulations in order to implement the provisions of this section and to define valid forms of identification.

Sec. 8. K.S.A. 25-1903 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-1903. (a) A person may become a candidate for election to the office of state board member by either one of the methods provided in this section.

(1) Any person who is an elector of any board member district may petition to be a candidate for member of the state board from the board member district in which such person resides. Any such person shall file with the secretary of state a petition for the candidacy of such person signed by not less than 200 electors residing in such board member district.

(2) Any person who is an elector of any board member district may become a candidate for member of the state board from the board member district in which such candidate resides by filing in the office of the secretary of state a declaration of intent to be such a candidate and payment of a filing fee in the amount of $25.

(b) Any such petition or declaration of intent filed by a candidate to run in the primary election held in accordance with K.S.A. 25-203, and amendments thereto, shall be filed no later than 12:00 noon, June 10, prior to such primary election, or if such date falls on Saturday, Sunday or a holiday, then before 12:00 noon of the next following day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or a holiday. Any such petition or declaration of intent filed by an independent candidate for the office of state board member shall be filed no later than 12:00 noon on the Monday preceding the date fixed for the holding of primary elections in accordance with K.S.A. 25-203, and amendments thereto.

Sec. 9. K.S.A. 25-2006 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-2006. (a) "General election" means the election held for school officers on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November of odd-numbered years, and in the case of special elections of any school officers to fill vacancies, the election at which any such officer is finally elected.

(b) "Primary election" means the election held on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in August of each odd-numbered year, and
any other preliminary election at which part of the candidates for special
election to any school office are eliminated by the process of the election
but at which no officer is finally elected.

Sec. 10. K.S.A. 25-2010 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-

2010. Election of board members and question submitted elections shall be

conducted by the county election officer of the home county of the school
district. Board member general elections shall be held on the Tuesday
following the first Monday in November of odd-numbered years. A
primary election shall be held on the first Tuesday following the first

Monday in August of odd-numbered years.

Sec. 11. K.S.A. 25-2018 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-

2018. (a) Notices of board member elections and question submitted
elections of a school district shall be made as provided in this section.

(b) On or before June 10 of odd-numbered years, the county
election officer shall publish a notice of election one time in a newspaper
having general circulation in the school district. The notice for board
member elections shall state:

(1) The name of the school district;
(2) the date of the general election;
(3) the date of the primary election if one is held;
(4) the filing deadline and the place of filing; and
(5) the offices or positions to be filled.

(c) All notices provided for by this section shall be given in the form
prescribed by the secretary of state to the extent that any notice or part
thereof is prescribed by the secretary of state. The provisions of this
section shall not be construed to require the secretary of state to prescribe
any particular form.

(d) On or before June 10 of each odd-numbered year, a notice
of primary elections shall be published by the county election officer in a
newspaper having general circulation in the school district, if a primary
election is required to be held. The publication shall be made one time and
shall state:

(1) The name of the school district;
(2) the date of the primary election;
(3) the names of the candidates and the office or position for which
each is a candidate;
(4) the voting place or places and the area each voting place is to
serve; and
(5) the times of opening and closing of the polls.

Description of areas shall be in the terms determined by the county
election officer.

(e) On or before September 1 of each odd-numbered year, a notice of
the general election shall be published by the county election officer one
time in a newspaper having general circulation in the school district. The notice shall state:

(1) The name of the school district;
(2) the date of the general election;
(3) the names of the candidates and the office or position for which each is a candidate;
(4) the voting place or places and the area each voting place is to serve; and
(5) the time of opening and closing of polls.

Description of areas shall be in such terms as may be determined by the county election officer.

(f) Notice of any question submitted election of any school district shall be made in the manner provided by K.S.A. 10-120, and amendments thereto. The notice shall state:

(1) The name of the school district;
(2) the date of the election;
(3) the amount of bonds to be issued, if a bond election;
(4) the proposition to be voted upon;
(5) the hours of opening and closing of the polls;
(6) the voting place or places and the area each voting place is to serve; and
(7) any other information specifically required by law. Description of areas shall be in the terms determined by the county election officer.

Sec. 12. K.S.A. 25-2102 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-2102. (a) "General election" means the elections held on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday in November of both odd-numbered and even-numbered years, and in the case of special elections of any officers to fill vacancies, the election at which any such officer is finally elected.

(b) "Primary election" means the elections held on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in August of each odd-numbered and even-numbered years.

(c) "District method" means the election of city officers where the city is divided into member districts or wards.

(d) "Election at large method" means the election of city officers without member districts or wards.

Sec. 13. K.S.A. 25-2107 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-2107. (a) The general election of city officers shall be held on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November of each odd-numbered and even-numbered years, if needed.

(b) A primary may be held on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in August of each odd-numbered and even-numbered year, if needed, as prescribed in K.S.A. 25-205 and 25-2108a, and amendments thereto.
Sec. 14. K.S.A. 25-2108a is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-2108a. (a) There shall be a primary election of city officers on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in August of each odd-numbered and even-numbered year, if needed.

(b) In cities in which a district method of election is in effect, if there are more than three qualified candidates for any member district, the county election officer shall call, and there shall be held, a primary election in each such member district. The names of the two candidates receiving the greatest number of votes for any such member district at the primary election shall appear on the ballots in the general election. If there are three or fewer qualified candidates for any member district there shall not be a primary election and the names of the candidates shall be placed on the ballots in the general election.

(c) In cities in which the election at large method of election is in effect, if there are more than three times the number of candidates as there are members to be elected, the county election officer shall call, and there shall be held, a primary election. The names of twice the number of candidates as there are members to be elected who received the greatest number of votes at the primary election shall appear on the ballots in the general election. If there are not more than three times the number of candidates as there are members to be elected there shall not be a primary election and the names of the candidates shall be placed on the ballots in the general election.

(d) On the ballots in general city elections, blank lines for the names of write-in candidates shall be printed at the end of the list of candidates for each different office. The number of blank lines for each elected office shall be equal to the number of candidates to be elected thereto. The purpose of such blank lines shall be to permit the voter to insert the name of any person not printed on the ballot for whom such voter desires to vote for such office. No lines for write-in candidates shall appear on primary city election ballots.

Sec. 15. K.S.A. 25-2109 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-2109. The filing deadline for all city elections shall be at 12 noon on June 1 as provided in K.S.A. 25-205, and amendments thereto.

Sec. 16. K.S.A. 25-21a01 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-21a01. (a) On and after January 1, 2017, All primary elections for members of the governing body and other elected officials of any municipality shall be held on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in August of 2017 and on such date thereafter of odd-numbered years, and all general elections for members of the governing body and other elected officials of any municipality shall be held on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday in November of 2017 and on such date thereafter.
(b) The term of members of governing bodies and other elected officials of any municipality that would expire at any time in 2017 shall expire on the second Monday in January of 2018, when newly elected members of the governing body and other newly elected officials shall take office.

(e) The governing body of the municipality shall establish by ordinance or resolution terms of office of elected officials to comply with this act.

(d) Primary elections for any municipality shall be conducted as provided in K.S.A. 25-202, and amendments thereto. A primary election shall only be required as provided in K.S.A. 25-2021 and 25-2108a, and amendments thereto, or as otherwise required by law.

(e) The filing deadline for all candidates for any municipality, unless otherwise provided by law, shall be as provided in K.S.A. 25-205, and amendments thereto.

(f) Any person who meets the qualifications for the office sought may become a candidate for municipal office by filing a declaration of intent to become a candidate with the county election officer accompanied by a filing fee of $20.

(f) "Municipality" means:


2. The term does not include any special district where the election of members of the governing body is conducted at a meeting of the special district.

(g) Cities and hospital districts may provide for elections of elected officials in even-numbered years in order to provide for staggered terms of office or for three-year terms of office for elected officials.

Sec. 17. K.S.A. 25-21a03 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-21a03. (a) The secretary of state shall develop the style and form of the official primary ballot and the official general election ballot for municipal offices.

(b) The declaration of intent to become a candidate shall be prescribed by the secretary of state. The declarations for any municipality shall be filed with the county election officer not later than 12 noon, June 1, prior to the primary election in both even-numbered and odd-
numbered years, or if such date falls on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, then before 12 noon of the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or holiday.

(c) The secretary of state shall establish primary election procedures for primary elections for municipalities.

(d) The secretary of state shall establish general election procedures for general elections for municipalities.

(e) County election officers shall conduct municipal elections in odd-numbered years and elections in even-numbered years if needed.

(f) The secretary of state shall adopt rules and regulations to implement this section on or before July 1, 2016.

Sec. 18. K.S.A. 25-2502 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-2502. (a) "General election" means the elections held on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November of both even-numbered and odd-numbered years, and in the case of special elections of any officers to fill vacancies, the election at which any such officer is finally elected.

(b) "Primary election" means the elections held on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in August of both even-numbered and odd-numbered years, and any other preliminary election at which part of the candidates for special election to any national, state, county, township, city, school or other municipal office are eliminated by the process of the election but at which no officer is finally elected.

Sec. 19. K.S.A. 25-26a03 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-26a03. (a) Notwithstanding any other law or provisions to the contrary, no election precinct shall be created, divided, abolished or consolidated or the boundaries thereof changed during the period four months prior to each primary election and the succeeding general election or between January 1 of a year the last digit of which is 8 and December 1 of a year the last digit of which is 0, and from and after January 1 of a year the last digit of which is 7 and the time when the legislature has been redistricted in a year the last digit of which is 2 except in the following cases:

(1) If required by the creation of a political subdivision, new precincts may be created.

(2) If there is an alteration of a political subdivision by annexation, new precincts may be created.

(3) If a political subdivision annexes an area adjacent to the political subdivision boundary, the annexed area may be included in a precinct immediately adjacent to it, if the annexed area is in the same legislative district.

(4) A municipality or county election officer may establish new election precincts lying entirely within the boundaries of any existing precinct and shall designate the new precincts by name or number, or a
combination of name and number, which shall include the designated name or number of the former precinct.

(5) If required to conform and coincide with a federal census block boundary established by the federal bureau of the census, a county election officer may change precinct boundaries.

(b) When necessary to comply with the provisions of this act, not less than 45 days after the legislature has been redistricted, or by June 10 in a year the last digit of which is 2 (whichever occurs first), precinct boundaries shall be reestablished.

Sec. 20. K.S.A. 25-3801 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-3801.

(a) At each primary election, the members of the party residing in each precinct in each county of the state shall elect a man of their number as precinct committeeman and a woman of their number as precinct committeewoman. No person shall be eligible to be a candidate for or hold the office of precinct committeeman or precinct committeewoman of a party in any precinct unless such person actually lives, resides and occupies a place of abode in such precinct, and is in all other respects a qualified elector and is shown as a member of such party on the party affiliation list, in the office of the county election officer. Except as provided in subsection (b), any vacancy occurring in the office of precinct committeeman or committeewoman shall be promptly filled by appointment by the county chairperson, except that any vacancy which occurs because the party had no candidate at such primary election shall not be filled until the county central committee has elected or reelected its chairperson. Not later than three days after appointment of precinct committeemen and committeewomen, the county chairperson making the appointments shall notify the county election officer of such appointments. The county election officer shall make such appointments public immediately upon receipt thereof. As used in this act, "primary election" means the statewide election held in August of even-numbered years.

(b) When a convention is to be held under article 39 of chapter 25 of Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto, to fill a vacancy, no appointments shall be made under subsection (a):

(1) After the county chairperson has received notice from the county election officer of a vacancy or a pending vacancy in a county elected office; or

(2) after the county chairperson in each county, all or a part of which, is located within a legislative district has received notice from the secretary of state of a vacancy or a pending vacancy in a legislative office.

(c) After the vacancy has been filled by a person elected at a convention held under article 39 of chapter 25 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto, any vacancy in the office of precinct committeeman or committeewoman shall be filled as provided by
subsection (a).

Sec. 21. K.S.A. 25-3901 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-3901. As used in this act, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in article 25 of chapter 25 of Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto, shall have the meaning therein ascribed thereto, to the extent that the same are not in conflict with the following:

(a) "District office" means the office of district judge, district magistrate judge, county commissioner, state representative, state senator, district attorney or county attorney.

(b) "Party" means a political party having a state and national organization and of which the officer or candidate whose position has become vacant was a member.

(c) "Party candidacy" means a candidate of a political party for a party nomination at a primary election or the party candidate at a general election.

(d) "General election" means the election held on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday in November in even-numbered years.

(e) "Primary election" means the election held on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in August in even-numbered years.

(f) "County chairman" or "county chairperson" means the chairperson of the county central committee, provided to be elected under K.S.A. 25-3802, and amendments thereto, of the political party of which the officer or candidate whose position has become vacant was a member.

Sec. 22. K.S.A. 25-4004 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-4004. The provisions of K.S.A. 25-205, and amendments thereto, shall not apply to the offices of governor and lieutenant governor. The names of candidates for governor and lieutenant governor shall be printed upon the official primary ballot when each pair thereof shall have qualified to become candidates in one or the other of the following methods and none other: First, they shall have had filed in their behalf, not later than 12 noon, June 1, prior to such primary election, or if such date falls on Saturday, Sunday or a legal holiday, then before 12 noon the following business day, nomination papers, commonly called nomination petitions, as provided for in K.S.A. 25-4005, and amendments thereto; or, second, they shall have filed not later than the time for filing nomination papers, as above provided, with the secretary of state, as hereinafter prescribed, a declaration of intention to become candidates, accompanied by a fee as provided in K.S.A. 25-4006, and amendments thereto.

Sec. 23. K.S.A. 25-4005 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-4005. (a) The nomination papers or petitions as mentioned in K.S.A. 25-4004, and amendments thereto, shall be in substantially the following form:

I, the undersigned, an elector of the county of ____________, and state
of Kansas, and a duly registered voter and a member of the __________
party, hereby nominate

______________________________
(Here insert name and city)

and state of Kansas as a candidate for the office of governor, and

______________________________
(Here insert name and city)

running with such candidate

______________________________
(Here insert name and city)

to be voted for at the primary to be held on the first Tuesday following the
first Monday in August in __________, as representing the principles
of such party; and I further declare that I intend to support the candidates
herein named and that I have not signed and will not sign any petition or
nomination paper for any other persons, for such offices at the next
ensuing election.

(HEADING)

Name of          Street Number         Name of          Date of
Signers         or RR                City            Signing
(as Registered)

All nomination papers shall have substantially the foregoing form, written or printed at the top thereof. No signature shall be counted unless it is upon a sheet having such written or printed form at the top thereof.

(b) Each signer of a nomination paper shall sign but one such paper for governor and lieutenant governor, and shall declare that such signer intends to support the candidates therein named; and shall add to the signer's signature the signer's residence, if in a city, by street and number, if any; or, otherwise by address as shown on such signer's registration. No signature shall be counted unless the place of residence of the signer is clearly indicated and the date of signing given as herein required and if ditto marks are used to indicate address they shall be continuous and clearly made. Such sheets shall not be cut or pasted together.

(c) All signers of each separate nomination paper shall reside in the same county. The affidavit of a petition circulator as defined in K.S.A. 25-3608, and amendments thereto, shall be appended to each such nomination paper, stating that to the best of such petition circulator's knowledge and belief, all the signers thereof are qualified electors of that county; that the petition circulator knows that they signed the same with full knowledge of the contents thereof; that their respective residences are correctly stated therein; that each signer signed the same on the date stated opposite such signer's name, and that the affiant intends to support the candidates therein named. Such affidavit shall be prima facie evidence of the facts therein stated.

(d) Such nomination papers shall be signed by not less than 1% of the
total vote of the party designated in the state. The basis of the percentage shall be the vote of the party for secretary of state at the last preceding general election of secretary of state; or, in case of a new party, the basis of a percentage shall be the vote cast for the successful candidate for secretary of state at the last preceding general election of secretary of state.

Sec. 24. K.S.A. 25-4153a is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-4153a. (a) No registered lobbyist, political committee or person, other than an individual, shall make a contribution after January 1 of each year and prior to first adjournment sine die of the regular session of the legislature or at any other time in which the legislature is in special session to a:

(1) Legislator;
(2) candidate for membership in the legislature;
(3) state officer elected on a statewide basis;
(4) candidate for state officer elected on a statewide basis;
(5) candidate committee of persons described in paragraphs (1) through (4); or
(6) political committee established by a state committee of any political party and designated as a recognized political committee for the senate or house of representatives.

(b) No legislator, officer, candidate or committee described in subsection (a)(1) through (6) shall accept or knowingly solicit any contribution as defined by K.S.A. 25-4143, and amendments thereto, from any registered lobbyist, political committee or person, other than an individual, during such period of time described in subsection (a), except that a general public solicitation which does not solicit a specific individual and is distributed via social media shall be permissible.

(c) For the purposes of this act, "social media" means an electronic medium which allows users to create and view user-generated content, including, but not limited to, uploaded or downloaded videos or photographs, blogs, audio files, instant messages or email.

Sec. 25. K.S.A. 25-4501a is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-4501a. Each political party which is a recognized political party in accordance with K.S.A. 25-302a, and amendments thereto, shall have procedures to select a presidential nominee and shall select a presidential nominee in accordance with such party procedures for the 2016 presidential election, and every fourth year thereafter. In 2024, and every four years thereafter, there shall be held a presidential preference primary election for the purpose of electing the preferred nominee of a political party for the office of president and vice president. Such election shall be held on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in May of each year in which such election is to be held.

Sec. 26. K.S.A. 25-4502 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-4502. (a) Every registered voter who has declared such voter's
voter's party affiliation with a political party eligible to participate in a state primary election shall have the opportunity to vote one vote at a presidential preference primary election for such elector's preference for one person to be the candidate for nomination by such candidate's party for president of the United States or for "none of the names shown." Any registered elector who has not declared such candidate's party affiliation prior to the election may make such a declaration at the polling place, and thereupon shall be permitted likewise the opportunity to vote one vote at the presidential preference primary. A vote for "none of the names shown" shall express the preference for an uncommitted delegation from Kansas to the national convention of that elector's party. Preference shall be indicated by marking with a cross or check mark inside a voting square or a darkened oval on the ballot at the left of the voter's choice, or by voting by using a voting machine.

(b) The name of any candidate for a political party nomination for president of the United States shall be printed on the ballots only if, one of the following is filed with the secretary of state not later than 12 noon, on the date which precedes by that is seven weeks prior to the date of the presidential preference primary or, if such date falls on Saturday, Sunday or a holiday, not later than 12 noon the following day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or holiday:

(1) The candidate files with the secretary of state a declaration of intent to become a candidate filed by the candidate and accompanied by a fee of $100; or

(2) there is filed in the office of secretary of state a petition in the form prescribed by K.S.A. 25-205, and amendments thereto, signed by not less than 1,000 registered electors, voters who are affiliated with the political party of such candidate as shown by the party affiliation list. The secretary of state shall determine the sufficiency of each such petition, and such determination shall be final.

Sec. 27. K.S.A. 71-1413 is hereby amended to read as follows: 71-1413. (a) Elections of trustees of community colleges shall be conducted by the county election officer of the county in which the main campus of the college is located. In any college district having territory in more than one county, the county election officers of all such counties shall cooperate with the county election officer of the county in which the main campus is located, and upon establishing any new community college or adding territory to any of the community college districts, the state board, in accordance with this section, shall specify the county in which the main campus shall be located for the purpose of this section. General community college elections shall be held on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November of each odd-numbered year.

(b) Any primary community college election shall be held on the first
Tuesday of August following the first Monday in May of each odd-numbered year in accordance with K.S.A. 25-205, and amendments thereto.

(c) Notice of the time and place of holding each primary and general election shall be published by the county election officer in a newspaper published in the county in accordance with K.S.A. 25-105 and 25-209, and amendments thereto.

Sec. 28. K.S.A. 71-1414 is hereby amended to read as follows: 71-1414. (a) (1) In college districts where a district method of election is in effect, a person may become a candidate for election to trustee of a community college by any one of the following methods:

(A) Any person who is an elector of any member district may petition to be a candidate for member from the member district in which such person resides. Any such person shall file with the election officer a petition for such person's candidacy signed by not less than 50 electors residing in such person's member district.

(B) Any person who is an elector of any member district may become a candidate for member from the member district in which such person resides by filing with the election officer a declaration of intent to be such a candidate, and payment therewith of a filing fee in the amount of $20.

(C) If a community college adopts and implements a seven member board of trustees plan, any person who is an elector of the college district may petition to be a candidate for the at-large member position. Any such person shall file with the county election officer a petition for such candidacy signed by not less than 50 electors residing in such college district.

(D) If a community college adopts and implements a seven member board of trustees plan, any person who is an elector of the college district may become a candidate for the at-large member position by filing with the county election officer a declaration of intent to be such a candidate, and payment therewith of a filing fee in the amount of $20.

(2) Every petition or declaration of intent filed under this subsection must specify the member position for which the person is a candidate.

(b) In college districts where the election-at-large method of election is in effect, a person may become a candidate for election to trustee of a community college by either one of the following methods:

(1) Any person who is an elector of the college district may petition to be a candidate for trustee. Any such person shall file with the election officer a petition for such person's candidacy signed by not less than 50 electors residing in the college district.

(2) Any person who is an elector of the college district may become a candidate for trustee by filing with the election officer a declaration of intent to be such a candidate, and payment therewith of a filing fee in the amount of $20.
amount of $20.

(c) Every petition or declaration of intent filed under this section must be filed on or before 12 noon on June 1 of each odd-numbered year as provided in K.S.A. 25-205 and 25-21a03, and amendments thereto, and K.S.A. 25-205, and amendments thereto.

Sec. 29. K.S.A. 71-1422 is hereby amended to read as follows: 71-1422. (a) As used in this section:

1. "Cowley county community college district" means the taxing district of Cowley county community college.

2. "Sumner county election officer" means the county clerk of Sumner county.

3. "Additional member" means the additional trustee position on the board of trustees of Cowley county community college elected by the qualified electors residing in Sumner county.

(b) Subject to the provisions of subsection (e):

1. The board of trustees of Cowley county community college shall be composed of board members from Cowley county community college elected pursuant to K.S.A. 71-1401 et seq., and amendments thereto, and an additional member elected by the qualified electors of Sumner county. The board of trustees of Cowley county community college shall adopt and implement an additional member plan as provided in this section. The board's additional member plan shall include a determination as to whether the board has adopted a six or seven member plan for member elections in the Cowley county community college district. The provisions of K.S.A. 71-1401 et seq., and amendments thereto, shall apply to the member elections in the Cowley county community college district.

2. The general election for the additional member shall be conducted as an at large election in Sumner county and held on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November of each odd-numbered year.

3. Any primary election for the additional member shall be conducted as an at large election in Sumner county and held on the first Tuesday of August following the first Monday in May of each odd-numbered year in accordance with K.S.A. 25-205, and amendments thereto.

4. Notice of the time and place of holding each primary and general election shall be published by the Sumner county election officer in accordance with K.S.A. 25-105 and 25-209, and amendments thereto.

5. If there are more than three candidates for the additional member, the Sumner county election officer shall call and hold a primary election. The names of the two candidates who receive the greatest number of votes at the primary election shall appear on the ballots in the general election. If there are three or fewer candidates, there shall not be a primary election and the names of the candidates shall be placed on the ballots in the
general election.

(6) If an additional member is to be elected to fill an unexpired term, the Sumner county election officer shall call and hold a primary election if there are more than three candidates for such unexpired term. The names of two candidates for such unexpired term receiving the greatest number of votes shall appear on the ballots in the general election. If there are three or fewer candidates for the unexpired term of the additional member, there shall not be a primary election and the names of the candidates shall be placed on the ballots in the general election.

(7) In general elections for the additional member, one blank line for the names of write-in candidates shall be printed on the ballots at the end of the list of candidates. The purpose of such blank line shall be to permit the voter to insert the name of any person not printed on the ballot for whom such voter desires to vote for such position. No lines for write-in candidates shall appear on primary election ballots for the additional member.

(8) All qualified electors who reside in Sumner county may vote in both the primary and general elections for the additional member.

(9) The provisions of K.S.A. 71-1419, and amendments thereto, shall apply to elections for the additional member.

(c) (1) A person may become a candidate for election to the additional member trustee of the Cowley county community college board of trustees by either one of the following methods:

(A) Any person who is an elector of Sumner county may petition to be a candidate for the additional member trustee by filing with the Sumner county election officer a petition for such person's candidacy signed by not less than 50 electors residing in Sumner county; or

(B) any person who is an elector of Sumner county may become a candidate for the additional member trustee by filing with the Sumner county election officer a declaration of intent to be such a candidate and payment of a filing fee in the amount of $20.

(2) Every petition or declaration of intent filed under this subsection shall be filed on or before 12 p.m. on June 1 of each odd-numbered year as provided in K.S.A. 25-205 and 25-21a03, and amendments thereto, and K.S.A. 25-205, and amendments thereto.

(d) The first additional member shall be elected for a two-year term commencing on the second Monday in January, 2018; following the election. All subsequent additional members shall be elected for a four-year term commencing on the second Monday in January following the election.

(e) The Cowley county community college board of trustees shall be composed of those members elected pursuant to K.S.A. 71-1401 et seq., and amendments thereto, and the additional member, for so long as
Sumner county provides financial support for the benefit of Cowley county community college in the form of a countywide retailers' sales tax or an ad valorem property tax levied on all taxable tangible property located in Sumner county. If Sumner county terminates such financial support or if the financial support lapses:

(1) The Cowley county community college board of trustees shall discontinue implementation of the additional member plan at the expiration of the additional member's term or upon the vacancy of the additional member position;

(2) The Cowley county community college board of trustees shall send notice of discontinued financial support to the Sumner county election officer;

(3) Upon receipt of such notice, the Sumner county election officer shall not conduct or authorize any general or primary election to fill the expiring term of the additional member or to fill any vacancy of the additional member position; and

(4) The additional member may continue to serve as the additional member on the Cowley county board of trustees until the expiration of such member's term of office or until a vacancy occurs in the additional member position.

(f) Elections for the board of trustee members from the Cowley county community college district shall continue to be conducted pursuant to K.S.A. 71-1401 et seq., and amendments thereto.


Sec. 31. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.