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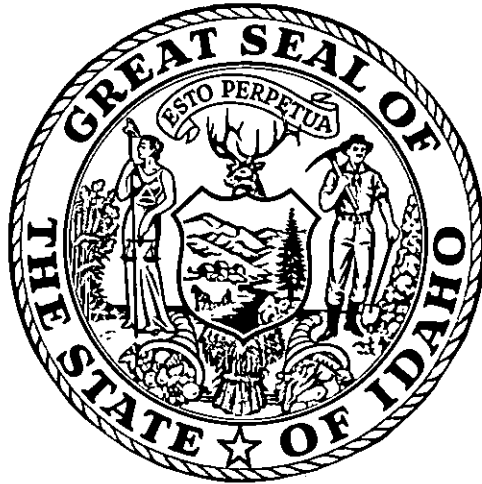
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1993

SUPPLEMENT



Title 34

✶ Election Laws

Compiled under the authority of:
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Boise, Idaho

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CHAPTER 1
DEFINITIONS

SECTION.

34-106. Limitation upon elections.

34-106. Limitation upon elections.

Limitation upon elections. On and after January 1, 1994, notwithstanding any other provisions of the law to the contrary, there shall be no more than four (4) elections conducted in any county in any calendar year, except as provided in this section, and except that elections to fill vacancies in the United States house of representatives shall be held as provided in the governor's proclamation.

(1) The dates on which elections may be conducted are:

(a) the first Tuesday in February of each year; and

(b) the fourth Tuesday in May of each year; and

(c) the first Tuesday in August of each year; and

(d) the Tuesday following the first Monday in November of each year.

(e) In addition to the elections specified in paragraphs (a) through (d) of this subsection, an emergency election may be called upon motion of the governing board of a political subdivision. An emergency exists when there is a great public calamity, as an extraordinary fire, flood, storm, epidemic, or other disaster, or if it is necessary to do emergency work to prepare for a national or local defense, or it is necessary to do emergency work to safeguard life, health or property. Such a special election, if conducted by the county clerk, shall be conducted at the expense of the political subdivision submitting the question.

(2) Candidates for office elected in February, May or August shall take office on the date specified in the certificate of election but not more than sixty (60) days following the election.

(3) Candidates for office elected in November shall take office as provided in the constitution, or on January 1, next succeeding the November election.

(4) The governing board of each political subdivision subject to the provisions of this section, which, prior to January 1, 1994, conducted an election for members of that governing board on a date other than a date permitted in subsection (1) of this section, shall establish as the election date for that political subdivision the date authorized in subsection (1) of this section which falls nearest the date on which elections were previously conducted, unless another date is established by law.

(5) The secretary of state is authorized to provide such assistance as necessary, and to prescribe any needed rules, regulations or interpretations for the conduct of election authorized under the provisions of this section.

(6) School districts governed by title 33, Idaho Code, and water districts governed by chapter 6, title 42, Idaho Code, are exempt from the provisions of this section.

(7) Initiative, referendum, and recall elections conducted by any political subdivision shall be held on the nearest date authorized in subsection (1) of this section which falls more than 45 days after the clerk of the political subdivision orders that such initiative, referendum or recall election shall be held. (History: S.L. 1992, Ch. 176; S.L. 1993, Ch. 313)

CHAPTER 6
TIME OF ELECTIONS OFFICERS ELECTED

SECTION.

**34-617. Election of county commissioners -
Qualifications.**

**34-617. Election of county commissioners -
Qualifications.** (1) A board of county commissioners shall be elected in each county at the general elections as provided by section 31-703, Idaho Code.

(2) No person shall be elected to the board of county commissioners unless he has attained the age of twenty-one (21) years at the time of the election, is a citizen of the United States, and shall have resided in the county one (1) year next preceding his election and in the district which he represents for a period of ninety (90) days next preceding the primary election.

(3) Each candidate shall file his declaration of candidacy with the county clerk. Each declaration shall have attached thereto a petition which contains the signatures of not less than five (5) nor more than ten (10) qualified electors from his commissioner district.

(4) Each candidate who files a declaration of candidacy shall at the same time pay a filing fee of forty dollars (\$40.00) which shall be deposited in the county treasury.

(History: S.L. 1970, Ch. 140; S.L. 1982, Ch. 332; S.L. 1993, Ch. 159)

CHAPTER 7
NOMINATIONS - CONVENTIONS
ELECTIONS

SECTION.

34-702A Declaration of intent for write-in candidates.

34-702A. Declaration of intent for write-in candidates. No write-in vote for any office in a primary, special, or general election shall be counted unless a declaration of intent has been filed indicating that the person desires the office and is legally qualified to assume the duties of said office if elected. The declaration of intent shall be filed with the secretary of state if for a federal, state, or legislative district office and with the county clerk if for a county office. Such declaration of intent shall be filed not later than eleven (11) days before the day of election. The secretary of state shall prescribe the form for said declaration. (History: S.L. 1983, Ch. 213; S.L. 1993, Ch. 313)

CHAPTER 10

ABSENTEE VOTING

SECTION

34-1003. Issuance of Absentee Ballot.

34-1003. Issuance of Absentee Ballot. Upon receipt of an application for an absent elector's ballot within the proper time, the county clerk receiving it shall examine the records of his office to ascertain whether or not such applicant is registered and lawfully entitled to vote as requested and, if found to be so, he shall arrange for the applicant to vote by absent elector's ballot in the following manner:

(1) If the applicant is classed under section 34-1002A(1), Idaho Code, the clerk shall deliver to the application, an official absent elector's ballot, a return envelope with the affidavit thereon properly filled in as to precinct and residence address as shown by the records in his office, and an instruction card.

(2) If the applicant is classed under section 34-1002A(2), Idaho Code, and if the applicant in the United States service submits a properly executed federal post card application and the county clerk receiving it shall determine that such applicant is not properly registered, the county clerk shall cause the applicant to be registered and shall then deliver to the applicant the official elector's ballot and other materials as above set forth.

(3) If the applicant is classed under section 34-1002A(3), Idaho Code, the county clerk shall forthwith notify the applicant that he shall appear personally and vote at the "absent elector's voting place" in the county courthouse during the time prescribed.

(4) In the case of applicants classified under subsections (1) and (2) of this section, the absent elector's ballot and other materials shall be delivered or mailed to the absent elector within forty-eight (48) hours after the receipt of the application, if the official ballots are then printed, or, if not then printed, within forty-eight (48) hours after such printed ballots shall be delivered to the county clerk. All absentee ballots for the general election shall be printed no late than fifty (50) days prior to the election.

(5) If the applicant is classed under section 34-1002A(4), Idaho Code, the county clerk shall forthwith notify the applicant by setting forth the time and place at which the county clerk or deputy clerk and witnesses shall personally deliver the absentee ballot. Each political party which desires to have a witness accompany the

clerk or deputy clerk shall supply the county clerk with the name of its county chairman or an alternate who may be delegated to act on behalf of said political party no later than sixty (60) days prior to the election.

The clerk, upon receiving an application under section 34-1002A(5), Idaho Code, shall notify the county chairman of each political party or the person authorized to act for the party, of the date and approximate hour the clerk or deputy clerk intends to deliver the ballot.

If the political party desires to supply a witness, it shall be the party's duty to supply the names of witnesses and it shall have the duty to see that said witness is present at the appointed time. If the clerk so requests, a witness may be required to be available throughout the business day on which the ballot is to be delivered.

Should the witness so designated fail to appear or if the political party does not desire to have a witness present, the clerk may proceed as prescribed by law, without further compliance with subsection (5) of this section.

A candidate for public office or a spouse of a candidate for public office shall not sign as a witness or as a deputy clerk in the personal delivery of absentee ballots under section 34-1002A(5), Idaho Code.

(6) An elector physically unable to mark his own ballot may receive assistance in marking such ballot from the officer delivering same or an available person of his own choosing. In the event the election officer is requested to render assistance in marking an absent elector's ballot, the officer shall ascertain the desires of the elector and shall vote the applicant's ballot accordingly. When such ballot is marked by an election officer, the witnesses on hand shall be allowed to observe such marking. No county clerk,

deputy, or other person assisting a disabled voter shall attempt to influence the vote of such elector in any manner.

(7) Notwithstanding any other provision of the law to the contrary, the county clerk may, upon appropriate request, mail absentee ballots to electors within the county if such mailing would enhance the electors' franchise.

(History: S.L. 1970, Ch. 140; S.L. 1973, Ch. 304; S.L. 1975, Ch. 66; S.L. 1984, Ch. 131; S.L. 1993, Ch. 100)

CHAPTER 11

CONDUCT OF ELECTION

SECTION

34-1101. Opening and Closing of Polls.

34-1101. Opening and Closing of Polls. - (1) At all elections conducted pursuant to title 34, Idaho Code, the polls shall be opened at 8:00 A.M. and remain open until all registered electors of that precinct have appeared and voted or until 8:00 P.M. of the same day, whichever comes first. The county clerk, at his option, however, may open the polls in his county at 7:00 A.M. for a primary or general election.

(2) Upon opening the polls, one (1) of the judges shall make the proclamation of the same and thirty (30) minutes before closing the polls a proclamation shall be made in the same manner. Any elector who is in line at 8:00 P.M. shall be allowed to vote notwithstanding the pronouncement that the polls are closed.

(History: S.L. 1970, Ch. 140; S.L. 1972, Ch. 349; S.L. 1973, Ch. 304; S.L. 1993, Ch. 313)

UNIFORM DISTRICT ELECTION LAW

SECTION

- 34-1401. Election Administration.
- 34-1404. Declaration of Candidacy.
- 34-1405. Notice of Election Filing Deadline
- 34-1406. Notice of Election.
- 34-1407. Write-in Candidates.

34-1401. Election administration.

Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, the election official of each political subdivision shall administer all elections on behalf of any political subdivision, subject to the provisions of this chapter, including all special district elections, and elections of special questions submitted to the electors as provided in this chapter. School districts governed by title 33, Idaho Code, and water districts governed by chapter 6, title 42, Idaho Code, irrigation districts governed by title 43, Idaho Code, and municipal elections governed by the provisions of chapter 4, title 50, Idaho Code, are exempt from the provisions of this chapter. For the purposes of achieving uniformity, the secretary of state shall, from time to time, provide directives and instructions to the various county clerks and political subdivision election officials. Unless a specific exception is provided in this chapter, the provisions of this chapter shall govern in all questions regarding the conduct of elections on behalf of all political subdivisions. In all matters not specifically covered by this chapter, other provisions of title 34, Idaho Code, governing elections shall prevail over any special provision which conflicts therewith.

A political subdivision may contract with the county clerk to conduct all or part of the elections for that political subdivision. In the event of such a contract, the county clerk shall perform all necessary duties of the election official of a political subdivision including, but not limited to, notice of the filing deadline, notice of the election, and preparation of the election calendar.

(History: S.L. 1992, Ch. 176; S.L. 1993, Ch. 379)

34-1403. Conduct of elections. All elections conducted in this state on behalf of each political subdivision within the county shall be conducted in a uniform manner with regard to the qualifications of electors and shall be conducted on the dates as provided by law. In the event that a statute governing a political subdivision provides for qualifications more restrictive than the qualifications for an elector in section 34-402, Idaho Code, the election official of the district shall provide an elector's oath to be executed at the time of the election certifying to the elector's qualifications for the specific election.

(History: S.L. 1992, Ch. 176, S.L. 1993, Ch.)

34-1404. Declaration of candidacy. Candidates for election in any political subdivision shall be nominated by nominating petitions, each of which shall bear the name of the nominee, the office for which the nomination is made, the term for which nomination is made, bear the signatures of not less than five (5) electors of the candidate's specific zone or district of the political subdivision, and be filed with the election official of the political subdivision. The form of the nominating petition shall be as provided by the county clerk and shall be uniform for all political subdivisions. For an

election to be held on the fourth Tuesday in May, in even-numbered years, the nomination petition shall be filed during the period specified in section 34-704, Idaho Code. The election official shall verify the qualifications of the nominees and shall, not more than seven (7) days after the close of filing, certify the nominees and any special questions placed by action of the governing board of the political subdivision. For an election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November, in even-numbered years, the nomination shall be filed on or before September 1. The election official shall verify the qualifications of the nominees, and shall not later than seven (7) days after the close of filing, certify the nominees and any special questions placed by action of the governing board of the political subdivisions. For all other elections, the nomination shall be filed not later than 5:00 p.m. on the sixth Friday preceding the election for which the nomination is made. The election official shall verify the qualifications of the nominee, and shall not more than seven (7) days following the filing certify the nominees and any special questions, placed by action of the governing board of the political subdivisions, to be placed on the ballot of the political subdivision.

(History: S.L. 1992, Ch. 176; S.L. 1993, Ch. 313)

34-1405. Notice of election filing deadline. Not more than fourteen (14) nor less than seven (7) days preceding the candidate filing deadline for an election, the election official of each political subdivision shall cause to be published a notice of the forthcoming candidate filing deadline. The notice shall include not less than the name of the political subdivision, the place where filing for each office takes

place, and a notice of the availability of declarations of candidacy. The notice shall be published in the official newspaper of the political subdivision.

(2) The secretary of state shall compile an election calendar annually which shall include not less than a listing of the political subdivisions which will be conducting candidate elections in the forthcoming year, the place where filing for each office takes place, and the procedure for a declaration of candidacy. Annually in December, the county clerk shall cause to be published the election calendar for the county for the following calendar year. It shall be the duty of the election official of each political subdivision to notify the county clerk, not later than the last day of November, of any election for that political subdivision to occur during the next calendar year. In the event of failure to so notify the county clerk, the election official of the political subdivision shall cause to be published notice of the omitted election as soon as he is aware of the omission. This publication shall be in addition to the publication required by paragraph (1) of this section. The election calendar for the county shall be published in at least two (2) newspapers published within the county, but if this is not possible, the calendar shall be published in one (1) newspaper which has general circulation within the county. Copies of the election calendar shall be available, without charge, from the office of the secretary of state or the county clerk.

(History: S.L. 1992, Ch. 176; S.L. 1993, Ch. 313)

34-1406. Notice of election. The election official of each political subdivision shall give notice for any election by publishing such notice in the official newspaper of the political subdivision. The notice shall state the date of

the election, the polling places, and the hours during which the polls shall be open for the purpose of voting. The first publication shall be made not less than twelve (12) days prior to the election, and the last publication of notice shall be made not less than five (5) days prior to the election.

(History: S.L. 1992, Ch. 176, S.L. 1993, Ch.313)

34-1407. Write-in candidates. No write-in candidate for any elective office shall be counted unless a declaration of intent has been filed indicating that the person desires the office and is legally qualified to assume the duties of the office. The declaration of intent shall be filed with the election official not less than eleven (11) days before the date of the election.

If the statutes governing elections within a specific political subdivision provide that no election shall be held in the event that no more than one (1) candidate has filed for an office, that statute shall be interpreted in such a manner as to allow for filing a declaration of intent for a write-in candidate until eleven (11) days preceding the election. However, if no candidate has filed within that time, no election shall be held for that political subdivision.

(History: S.L. 1992, Ch. 176, S.L. 1993, Ch. 313)

CHAPTER 17 RECALL ELECTIONS

SECTION.

**34-1707. Sufficiency of petition --
Notification -- Effect of
resignation -- Special election.**

34-1707. Sufficiency of petition -- Notification -- Effect of resignation -- Special election.

(1) (a) In the event that a petition filed with the secretary of state does not contain the required number of certified signatures after being returned by the county clerks, the secretary of state shall inform the person or organization under whose authority the petition was circulated that the petition is defective for lack of certified signatures, and specify the number of additional signatures required to make the petition valid. The petition must be perfected within thirty (30) days of the date that the secretary of state finds the petition defective for lack of certified signatures. If the petition is not perfected within the thirty (30) day period, the secretary of state shall declare the petition null and void ab initio in its entirety.

(b) In the event that a petition filed with the secretary of state is found by the secretary of state to contain the required number of certified signatures, the secretary of state shall promptly, by certified mail, inform the officer being recalled, and the petitioner, that the recall petition is in proper form.

(i) If the officer being recalled resigns his office within five (5) days after notice from the secretary of state, his resignation shall be accepted and the resignation shall take effect on the day it is offered, and the vacancy shall be filled as provided by law.

(ii) If the officer being recalled does not resign his office within five (5) days after notice from the secretary of state, a special election shall be ordered by the secretary of state, unless he is the officer being recalled, in which event the governor shall order such special election. The special election must be held on the date prescribed in section 34-106, Idaho Code. If the officer being recalled is one (1) specified in

section 34-1701(1)(a), Idaho Code, the special election shall be conducted statewide. If the officer being recalled is one (1) specified in section 34-1701(1)(b), Idaho Code, the special election shall be conducted only in the legislative district.

(2) (a) In the event that a petition filed with a county clerk does not contain the required number of certified signatures, the county clerk shall inform the person or organization under whose authority the petition was circulated that the petition is defective for lack of certified signatures, and specify the number of additional signatures required to make the petition valid. The petition must be perfected within thirty (30) days of the date that the clerk finds the petition defective for lack of certified signatures. If the petition is not perfected within the thirty (30) day period, the clerk shall declare the petition null and void ab initio in its entirety.

(b) In the event that a petition filed with the county clerk is found by the county clerk to contain the required number of certified signatures, the county clerk shall promptly, by certified mail, inform the officer being recalled, and the petitioner, that the recall petition is in proper form.

(i) If the officer being recalled resigns his office within five (5) days after notice from the county clerk, his resignation shall be accepted and the resignation shall take effect on the day it is offered, and the vacancy shall be filled as provided by law.

(ii) If the officer being recalled does not resign his office within five (5) days after notice from the county clerk, a special election shall be ordered by the county clerk. The special election must be held on the date prescribed in section 34-106, Idaho Code. The special election shall be conducted county-wide.

(3) (a) In the event that a petition filed with a city clerk does not contain the required number of certified signatures, the city clerk shall inform the person or organization under whose authority the petition was circulated that the petition is defective for lack of certified signatures, and specify the number of additional signatures required to make the petition valid. The petition must be perfected within thirty (30) days of the date that the city clerk finds the petition defective for lack of certified signatures. If the petition is not perfected within the thirty (30) day period, the clerk shall declare the petition null and void ab initio in its entirety.

(b) In the event that a petition filed with a city clerk is found by the city clerk to contain the required number of certified signatures, the city clerk shall promptly, by certified mail, inform the officer being recalled, and the petitioner, that the recall petition is in proper form.

(i) If the officer being recalled resigns his office within five (5) days after notice from the city clerk, his resignation shall be accepted and the resignation shall take effect on the day it is offered, and the vacancy shall be filled as provided by law.

(ii) If the officer being recalled does not resign his office within five (5) days after notice from the city clerk, a special election shall be ordered by the city clerk. The special election must be held within not less than forty-five (45) days nor more than sixty (60) days, and the date of the special election shall be specified in the order. The special election shall be conducted city-wide. (History: S.L. 1972, Ch. 283; S.L. 1975, Ch. 137; S.L. 1989, Ch. 344; S.L. 1993, Ch. 313)

