

**MUNICIPAL OFFICE AND LOCAL ELECTIONS**

2020 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Jon Hawkins**

Senate Sponsor: Luz Escamilla

---

**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill amends provisions relating to municipal office and elections administered by an election officer other than a county clerk.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ subject to the same exceptions to requirements to reside in a municipality, requires that an elected officer of a municipality reside in the district that the elected officer represents;
- ▶ provides that a municipal elected officer who fails to comply with district residency requirements described in this bill has vacated the elected office;
- ▶ requires that an individual who fills a vacancy must comply with the district residency requirements described in this bill; and
- ▶ provides that early voting registration or same day voting registration is not permitted for an election administered by an election officer other than a county clerk if there is not a polling location for early voting or voting on election day.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

This bill provides a coordination clause.

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

- 29 **10-3-301**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapters 258 and 305
- 30 **20A-2-201**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapters 206 and 281
- 31 **20A-2-204**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapters 136 and 255
- 32 **20A-2-206**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 206
- 33 **20A-2-207**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 206
- 34 **20A-3-601**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapters 195, 206, and 281

35 **Utah Code Sections Affected by Coordination Clause:**

- 36 **20A-2-201**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapters 206 and 281
- 37 **20A-2-204**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapters 136 and 255
- 38 **20A-2-205**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapter 255
- 39 **20A-2-206**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 206



41 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

42 Section 1. Section **10-3-301** is amended to read:

43 **10-3-301. Notice -- Eligibility and residency requirements for elected municipal**  
44 **office -- Mayor and recorder limitations.**

45 (1) As used in this section:

46 (a) "Absent" means that an elected municipal officer fails to perform official duties,  
47 including the officer's failure to attend each regularly scheduled meeting that the officer is  
48 required to attend.

49 (b) "Principal place of residence" means the same as that term is defined in Section  
50 **20A-2-105**.

51 (c) "Secondary residence" means a place where an individual resides other than the  
52 individual's principal place of residence.

53 (2) (a) On or before May 1 in a year in which there is a municipal general election, the  
54 municipal clerk shall publish a notice that identifies:

55 (i) the municipal offices to be voted on in the municipal general election; and

56 (ii) the dates for filing a declaration of candidacy for the offices identified under  
57 Subsection (2)(a)(i).

58 (b) The municipal clerk shall publish the notice described in Subsection (2)(a):

59 (i) on the Utah Public Notice Website established by Section 63F-1-701; and

60 (ii) in at least one of the following ways:

61 (A) at the principal office of the municipality;

62 (B) in a newspaper of general circulation within the municipality at least once a week

63 for two successive weeks in accordance with Section 45-1-101;

64 (C) in a newsletter produced by the municipality;

65 (D) on a website operated by the municipality; or

66 (E) with a utility enterprise fund customer's bill.

67 (3) (a) An individual who files a declaration of candidacy for a municipal office shall  
68 comply with the requirements described in Section 20A-9-203.

69 (b) (i) Except as provided in Subsection (3)(b)(ii), the city recorder or town clerk of  
70 each municipality shall maintain office hours 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the dates described in  
71 Subsections 20A-9-203(3)(a)(i) and (c)(i) unless the date occurs on a:

72 (A) Saturday or Sunday; or

73 (B) state holiday as listed in Section 63G-1-301.

74 (ii) If on a regular basis a city recorder or town clerk maintains an office schedule that  
75 is less than 40 hours per week, the city recorder or town clerk may comply with Subsection  
76 (3)(b)(i) without maintaining office hours by:

77 (A) posting the recorder's or clerk's contact information, including a phone number and  
78 email address, on the recorder's or clerk's office door, the main door to the municipal offices,  
79 and, if available, on the municipal website; and

80 (B) being available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the dates described in Subsection (3)(b)(i),  
81 via the contact information described in Subsection ~~(2)~~(3)(b)(ii)(A).

82 (4) An individual elected to municipal office shall be a registered voter in the

83 municipality in which the individual is elected.

84 (5) (a) Each elected officer of a municipality shall maintain a principal place of  
85 residence within the municipality, and within the district that the elected officer represents,  
86 during the officer's term of office.

87 (b) Except as provided in Subsection (6), an elected municipal office is automatically  
88 vacant if the officer elected to the municipal office, during the officer's term of office:

89 (i) establishes a principal place of residence outside the [municipality] district that the  
90 elected officer represents;

91 (ii) resides at a secondary residence outside the [municipality] district that the elected  
92 officer represents for a continuous period of more than 60 days while still maintaining a  
93 principal place of residence within the [municipality] district;

94 (iii) is absent from the [municipality] district that the elected officer represents for a  
95 continuous period of more than 60 days; or

96 (iv) fails to respond to a request, within 30 days after the day on which the elected  
97 officer receives the request, from the county clerk or the lieutenant governor seeking  
98 information to determine the officer's residency.

99 (6) (a) Notwithstanding Subsection (5), if an elected municipal officer obtains the  
100 consent of the municipal legislative body in accordance with Subsection (6)(b) before the  
101 expiration of the 60-day period described in Subsection (5)(b)(ii) or (iii), the officer may:

102 (i) reside at a secondary residence outside the [municipality] district that the elected  
103 officer represents while still maintaining a principal place of residence within the  
104 [municipality] district for a continuous period of up to one year during the officer's term of  
105 office; or

106 (ii) be absent from the [municipality] district that the elected officer represents for a  
107 continuous period of up to one year during the officer's term of office.

108 (b) At a public meeting, the municipal legislative body may give the consent described  
109 in Subsection (6)(a) by majority vote after taking public comment regarding:

- 110 (i) whether the legislative body should give the consent; and
- 111 (ii) the length of time to which the legislative body should consent.
- 112 (7) (a) The mayor of a municipality may not also serve as the municipal recorder or
- 113 treasurer.
- 114 (b) The recorder of a municipality may not also serve as the municipal treasurer.
- 115 (c) An individual who holds a county elected office may not, at the same time, hold a
- 116 municipal elected office.
- 117 (d) The restriction described in Subsection (7)(c) applies regardless of whether the
- 118 individual is elected to the office or appointed to fill a vacancy in the office.

119 Section 2. Section **20A-2-201** is amended to read:

120 **20A-2-201. Registering to vote at office of county clerk.**

121 (1) Except as provided in Subsection (3), the county clerk shall register to vote each

122 individual who registers in person at the county clerk's office during designated office hours if

123 the individual will, on the date of the election, be legally eligible to vote in a voting precinct in

124 the county in accordance with Section [20A-2-101](#).

125 (2) If an individual who is registering to vote submits a registration form in person at

126 the office of the county clerk during designated office hours, during the period beginning on

127 the date after the voter registration deadline and ending on the date that is 15 calendar days

128 before the date of the election, the county clerk shall:

129 (a) accept the form if the individual, on the date of the election, will be legally

130 qualified and entitled to vote in a voting precinct in the county; and

131 (b) inform the individual that the individual will be registered to vote in the pending

132 election.

133 (3) If an individual who is registering to vote and who will be legally qualified and

134 entitled to vote in a voting precinct in the county on the date of an election appears in person,

135 during designated office hours, and submits a registration form on the date of the election or

136 during the 14 calendar days before an election, the county clerk shall:

- 137 (a) accept the registration form; and
- 138 (b) except as provided in Subsection 20A-2-207(6):
- 139 (i) if the individual submits the registration form seven or more calendar days before
- 140 the date of an election, inform the individual that:
- 141 (A) the individual is registered to vote in the pending election; and
- 142 (B) for the pending election, the individual must vote on the day of the election or by
- 143 provisional ballot, under Section 20A-2-207, during the early voting period described in
- 144 Section 20A-3-601, because the individual registered late; or
- 145 (ii) if the individual submits the registration form on the date of an election or during
- 146 the six calendar days before an election, inform the individual:
- 147 (A) of each manner still available to the individual to timely register to vote in the
- 148 current election; and
- 149 (B) that, if the individual does not timely register in a manner described in Subsection
- 150 (3)(b)(ii)(A), the individual will be registered to vote but may not vote in the pending election
- 151 because the individual registered late.

152 Section 3. Section 20A-2-204 is amended to read:

153 **20A-2-204. Registering to vote when applying for or renewing a driver license.**

154 (1) As used in this section, "voter registration form" means, when an individual named

155 on a qualifying form, as defined in Section 20A-2-108, answers "yes" to the question described

156 in Subsection 20A-2-108(2)(a), the information on the qualifying form that can be used for

157 voter registration purposes.

158 (2) A citizen who is qualified to vote may register to vote, and a citizen who is

159 qualified to preregister to vote may preregister to vote, by answering "yes" to the question

160 described in Subsection 20A-2-108(2)(a) and completing the voter registration form.

161 (3) The Driver License Division shall:

- 162 (a) assist an individual in completing the voter registration form unless the individual
- 163 refuses assistance;

164 (b) electronically transmit each address change to the lieutenant governor within five  
165 days after the day on which the division receives the address change; and

166 (c) within five days after the day on which the division receives a voter registration  
167 form, electronically transmit the form to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, including the  
168 following for the individual named on the form:

169 (i) the name, date of birth, driver license or state identification card number, last four  
170 digits of the social security number, Utah residential address, place of birth, and signature;

171 (ii) a mailing address, if different from the individual's Utah residential address;

172 (iii) an email address and phone number, if available;

173 (iv) the desired political affiliation, if indicated; and

174 (v) an indication of whether the individual requested that the individual's voter  
175 registration record be classified as a private record under Subsection 20A-2-108(2)(c).

176 (4) Upon receipt of an individual's voter registration form from the Driver License  
177 Division under Subsection (3), the lieutenant governor shall:

178 (a) enter the information into the statewide voter registration database; and

179 (b) if the individual requests on the individual's voter registration form that the  
180 individual's voter registration record be classified as a private record, classify the individual's  
181 voter registration record as a private record.

182 (5) The county clerk of an individual whose information is entered into the statewide  
183 voter registration database under Subsection (4) shall:

184 (a) ensure that the individual meets the qualifications to be registered or preregistered  
185 to vote; and

186 (b) (i) if the individual meets the qualifications to be registered to vote:

187 (A) ensure that the individual is assigned to the proper voting precinct; and

188 (B) send the individual the notice described in Section 20A-2-304; or

189 (ii) if the individual meets the qualifications to be preregistered to vote, process the  
190 form in accordance with the requirements of Section 20A-2-101.1.

191 (6) (a) When the county clerk receives a correctly completed voter registration form  
192 under this section, the clerk shall:

- 193 (i) comply with the applicable provisions of this Subsection (6); or
- 194 (ii) if the individual is preregistering to vote, comply with Section 20A-2-101.1.

195 (b) If the county clerk receives a correctly completed voter registration form under this  
196 section during the period beginning on the date after the voter registration deadline and ending  
197 at 5 p.m. on the date that is 15 calendar days before the date of an election, the county clerk  
198 shall:

- 199 (i) accept the voter registration form; and
- 200 (ii) unless the individual is preregistering to vote, inform the individual that the  
201 individual is registered to vote in the pending election.

202 (c) If the county clerk receives a correctly completed voter registration form under this  
203 section during the period beginning on the date that is 14 calendar days before the election and  
204 ending at 5 p.m. on the date that is seven calendar days before the election, the county clerk  
205 shall:

- 206 (i) accept the voter registration form; and
- 207 (ii) except as provided in Subsection 20A-2-207(6), and unless the individual is  
208 preregistering to vote, inform the individual that:

- 209 (A) the individual is registered to vote in the pending election; and
- 210 (B) for the pending election, the individual must vote on the day of the election or by  
211 provisional ballot, under Section 20A-2-207, during the early voting period described in  
212 Section 20A-3-601 because the individual registered late.

213 (d) If the county clerk receives a correctly completed voter registration form under this  
214 section during the six calendar days before an election, the county clerk shall:

- 215 (i) accept the application for registration of the individual; and
- 216 (ii) unless the individual is preregistering to vote, inform the individual:  
217 (A) of each manner still available to the individual to timely register to vote in the



218 current election; and

219 (B) that, if the individual does not timely register in a manner described in Subsection  
220 (6)(d)(ii)(A), the individual is registered to vote but may not vote in the pending election  
221 because the individual registered late.

222 (7) (a) If the county clerk determines that an individual's voter registration form  
223 received from the Driver License Division is incorrect because of an error, because the form is  
224 incomplete, or because the individual does not meet the qualifications to be registered to vote,  
225 the county clerk shall mail notice to the individual stating that the individual has not been  
226 registered or preregistered because of an error, because the form is incomplete, or because the  
227 individual does not meet the qualifications to be registered to vote.

228 (b) If a county clerk believes, based upon a review of a voter registration form, that an  
229 individual, who knows that the individual is not legally entitled to register or preregister to  
230 vote, may be intentionally seeking to register or preregister to vote, the county clerk shall refer  
231 the form to the county attorney for investigation and possible prosecution.

232 Section 4. Section **20A-2-206** is amended to read:

233 **20A-2-206. Electronic registration -- Requests for absentee ballot application.**

234 (1) The lieutenant governor may create and maintain an electronic system that is  
235 publicly available on the Internet for an individual to apply for voter registration or  
236 preregistration and for an individual to request an absentee ballot.

237 (2) An electronic system for voter registration or preregistration shall require:

238 (a) that an applicant have a valid driver license or identification card, issued under Title  
239 53, Chapter 3, Uniform Driver License Act, that reflects the applicant's current principal place  
240 of residence;

241 (b) that the applicant provide the information required by Section [20A-2-104](#), except  
242 that the applicant's signature may be obtained in the manner described in Subsections (2)(d)  
243 and (4);

244 (c) that the applicant attest to the truth of the information provided; and

245 (d) that the applicant authorize the lieutenant governor's and county clerk's use of the  
246 applicant's:

247 (i) driver license or identification card signature, obtained under Title 53, Chapter 3,  
248 Uniform Driver License Act, for voter registration purposes; or

249 (ii) signature on file in the lieutenant governor's statewide voter registration database  
250 developed under Section 20A-2-109.

251 (3) Notwithstanding Section 20A-2-104, an applicant using the electronic system for  
252 voter registration or preregistration created under this section is not required to complete a  
253 printed registration form.

254 (4) A system created and maintained under this section shall provide the notices  
255 concerning a voter's presentation of identification contained in Subsection 20A-2-104(1).

256 (5) The lieutenant governor shall:

257 (a) obtain a digital copy of the applicant's driver license or identification card signature  
258 from the Driver License Division; or

259 (b) ensure that the applicant's signature is already on file in the lieutenant governor's  
260 statewide voter registration database developed under Section 20A-2-109.

261 (6) The lieutenant governor shall send the information to the county clerk for the  
262 county in which the applicant's principal place of residence is found for further action as  
263 required by Section 20A-2-304 after:

264 (a) receiving all information from an applicant; and

265 (b) (i) receiving all information from the Driver License Division; or

266 (ii) ensuring that the applicant's signature is already on file in the lieutenant governor's  
267 statewide voter registration database developed under Section 20A-2-109.

268 (7) The lieutenant governor may use additional security measures to ensure the  
269 accuracy and integrity of an electronically submitted voter registration.

270 (8) If an individual applies to register under this section during the period beginning on  
271 the date after the voter registration deadline and ending on the date that is 15 calendar days

272 before the date of an election, the county clerk shall, unless the individual is preregistering to  
273 vote:

274 (a) accept the application for registration if the individual, on the date of the election,  
275 will be legally qualified and entitled to vote in a voting precinct in the state; and

276 (b) inform the individual that the individual is registered to vote in the pending  
277 election.

278 (9) If an individual applies to register under this section during the period beginning on  
279 the date that is 14 calendar days before the election and ending on the date that is seven  
280 calendar days before the election, the county clerk shall, unless the individual is preregistering  
281 to vote:

282 (a) accept the application for registration if the individual, on the date of the election,  
283 will be legally qualified and entitled to vote in a voting precinct in the state; and

284 (b) except as provided in Subsection 20A-2-207(6), inform the individual that:

285 (i) the individual is registered to vote in the pending election; and

286 (ii) for the pending election, the individual must vote on the day of the election or by  
287 provisional ballot, under Section 20A-2-207, during the early voting period described in  
288 Section 20A-3-601 because the individual registered late.

289 (10) If an individual applies to register under this section during the six calendar days  
290 before an election, the county clerk shall:

291 (a) if the individual is preregistering to vote, comply with Section 20A-2-101.1; or

292 (b) (i) accept the application for registration if the individual, on the date of the  
293 election, will be legally qualified and entitled to vote in a voting precinct in the state; and

294 (ii) unless the individual timely registers to vote in the current election in a manner that  
295 permits registration after the voter registration deadline, inform the individual:

296 (A) of each manner still available to the individual to timely register to vote in the  
297 current election; and

298 (B) that, if the individual does not timely register in a manner described in Subsection

299 (10)(b)(ii)(A), the individual is registered to vote but may not vote in the pending election  
300 because the individual registered late.

301 (11) (a) A registered voter may file an application for an absentee ballot in accordance  
302 with Section 20A-3-304 on the electronic system for voter registration established under this  
303 section.

304 (b) The lieutenant governor shall provide a means by which a registered voter shall  
305 sign the application form as provided in Section 20A-3-304.

306 Section 5. Section 20A-2-207 is amended to read:

307 **20A-2-207. Registration by provisional ballot.**

308 (1) ~~Am~~ Except as provided in Subsection (6), an individual who is not registered to  
309 vote may register to vote, and vote, on election day or during the early voting period described  
310 in Section 20A-3-601, by voting a provisional ballot, if:

- 311 (a) the individual is otherwise legally entitled to vote the ballot;
- 312 (b) the ballot is identical to the ballot for the precinct in which the individual resides;
- 313 (c) the information on the provisional ballot form is complete; and
- 314 (d) the individual provides valid voter identification and proof of residence to the poll  
315 worker.

316 (2) If a provisional ballot and the individual who voted the ballot comply with the  
317 requirements described in Subsection (1), the election officer shall:

- 318 (a) consider the provisional ballot a voter registration form;
- 319 (b) place the ballot with the absentee ballots, to be counted with those ballots at the  
320 canvass; and
- 321 (c) as soon as reasonably possible, register the individual to vote.

322 (3) Except as provided in Subsection (4), the election officer shall retain a provisional  
323 ballot form, uncounted, for the period specified in Section 20A-4-202, if the election officer  
324 determines that the individual who voted the ballot:

- 325 (a) is not registered to vote and is not eligible for registration under this section; or

- 326 (b) is not legally entitled to vote the ballot that the individual voted.
- 327 (4) Subsection (3) does not apply if a court orders the election officer to produce or
- 328 count the provisional ballot.
- 329 (5) The lieutenant governor shall report to the Government Operations Interim
- 330 Committee on or before October 31, 2018, and on or before October 31, 2020, regarding:
- 331 (a) implementation of registration by provisional ballot, as described in this section, on
- 332 a statewide basis;
- 333 (b) any difficulties resulting from the implementation described in Subsection (5)(a);
- 334 (c) the effect of registration by provisional ballot on voter participation in Utah;
- 335 (d) the number of ballots cast by voters who registered by provisional ballot:
- 336 (i) during the early voting period described in Section 20A-3-601; and
- 337 (ii) on election day; and
- 338 (e) suggested changes in the law relating to registration by provisional ballot.
- 339 (6) For an election administered by an election officer other than a county clerk:
- 340 (a) if the election officer does not operate a polling location to allow early voting, the
- 341 individual may not register to vote, under this section, during an early voting period; and
- 342 (b) if the election officer does not operate a polling location on election day, the
- 343 individual may not register to vote, under this section, on election day.
- 344 Section 6. Section 20A-3-601 is amended to read:
- 345 **20A-3-601. Early voting.**
- 346 (1) (a) An individual who is registered to vote may vote before the election date in
- 347 accordance with this section.
- 348 (b) ~~Am~~ Except as provided in Subsection 20A-2-207(6), an individual who is not
- 349 registered to vote may register to vote and vote before the election date in accordance with this
- 350 section if the individual:
- 351 (i) is otherwise legally entitled to vote the ballot; and
- 352 (ii) casts a provisional ballot in accordance with Section 20A-2-207.

353 (2) Except as provided in Section 20A-1-308 or Subsection (3), the early voting period  
354 shall:

355 (a) begin on the date that is 14 days before the date of the election; and

356 (b) continue through the Friday before the election if the election date is a Tuesday.

357 (3) (a) An election officer may extend the end of the early voting period to the day  
358 before the election date if the election officer provides notice of the extension in accordance  
359 with Section 20A-3-604.

360 (b) For a municipal election, the municipal clerk may reduce the early voting period  
361 described in this section if:

362 (i) the municipal clerk conducts early voting on at least four days;

363 (ii) the early voting days are within the period beginning on the date that is 14 days  
364 before the date of the election and ending on the day before the election; and

365 (iii) the municipal clerk provides notice of the reduced early voting period in  
366 accordance with Section 20A-3-604.

367 (c) For a county election that is conducted entirely by mail, the county clerk may  
368 reduce the early voting period described in this section if:

369 (i) the county clerk conducts early voting on at least four days;

370 (ii) the early voting days are within the period beginning on the date that is 14 days  
371 before the date of the election and ending on the day before the election; and

372 (iii) the county clerk provides notice of the reduced early voting period in accordance  
373 with Section 20A-3-604.

374 (4) Except as provided in Section 20A-1-308, during the early voting period, the  
375 election officer:

376 (a) for a local special election, a municipal primary election, and a municipal general  
377 election:

378 (i) shall conduct early voting on a minimum of four days during each week of the early  
379 voting period; and

- 380 (ii) shall conduct early voting on the last day of the early voting period; and  
381 (b) for all other elections:  
382 (i) shall conduct early voting on each weekday; and  
383 (ii) may elect to conduct early voting on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday.  
384 (5) Except as specifically provided in this Part 6, Early Voting, or Section 20A-1-308,  
385 early voting shall be administered according to the requirements of this title.

386 Section 7. **Coordinating H.B. 221 with H.B. 36 -- Substantive and technical**  
387 **changes.**

388 If this H.B. 221 and H.B. 36, Election Amendments, both pass and become law, it is the  
389 intent of the Legislature that the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall  
390 prepare the Utah Code database for publication as follows:

- 391 (1) by not making the changes to Section 20A-2-201 in this H.B. 221;  
392 (2) amend Subsection 20A-2-201(3) in H.B. 36 by inserting ", except as provided in  
393 Subsection 20A-2-207(6)," before the word "inform";  
394 (3) by not making the changes to Section 20A-2-204 in this H.B. 221;  
395 (4) amend Subsection 20A-2-204(6)(c)(iii) in H.B. 36 by inserting "and except as  
396 provided in Subsection 20A-2-207(6)," before the word "inform";  
397 (5) amend Subsection 20A-2-205(7)(b) in H.B. 36 by inserting "except as provided in  
398 Subsection 20A-2-207(6)," before the words "if possible";  
399 (6) by not making the changes to Section 20A-2-206 in this H.B. 221; and  
400 (7) amend Subsection 20A-2-206(9)(b) in H.B. 36 by inserting "except as provided in  
401 Subsection 20A-2-207(6)," before the words "if possible".