

Voting Precinct Amendments

2025 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor:

LONG TITLE**General Description:**

This bill addresses voting precincts.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- increases, to 3,000, the maximum allowable number of active voters in a voting precinct;
- subject to an exception, authorizes the county clerk to adjust the boundaries of a voting

precinct in order to:

- match the current boundaries of a local political subdivision; or
- match the resulting boundaries of a local subdivision that expands, divides, alters, or

changes the local political subdivision's boundaries;

- requires a county clerk who adjusts the boundaries of a voting precinct to:

- file a notice with the Utah Geospatial Resource Center at least 65 days before the

date of an election; and

- provide a copy of the notice to the county legislative body;

- prohibits a county clerk from adjusting a voting precinct's boundaries if the number of

active voters in the resulting precinct is more than 3,000; and

- makes technical and conforming changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

20A-5-303, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapters 162, 345

ENACTS:

20A-5-303.5, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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

Section 1. Section **20A-5-303** is amended to read:

**20A-5-303 . Establishing, dividing, abolishing, and changing voting precincts --
Common polling places -- Combined voting precincts.**

(1)(a) After receiving recommendations from the county clerk, the county legislative body may establish, divide, abolish, ~~[and change voting precincts]~~ or change the boundaries of a voting precinct.

(b) Within 30 days after the establishment, division, abolition, or change of a voting precinct under this section, the county legislative body shall file with the Utah Geospatial Resource Center, created under Section 63A-16-505, a notice describing the action taken and specifying the resulting boundaries of each voting precinct affected by the action.

(2)(a) The county legislative body shall alter or divide voting precincts so that each voting precinct contains not more than ~~[1,250]~~ 3,000 active voters.

(b) The county legislative body shall:

(i) ~~[identify those precincts that]~~ identify each voting precinct that:

(A) may reach the limit of active voters in a precinct under Subsection (2)(a); or

(B) ~~[that becomes]~~ is too large to facilitate the election process; and

(ii) except as provided by Subsection (3), divide those precincts on or before January 1 of a general election year.

(3) A county legislative body shall divide a voting precinct identified under Subsection (2)(b)(i) on or before January 31 of a regular general election year that immediately follows the calendar year in which the Legislature divides the state into districts in accordance with Utah Constitution, Article IX, Section 1.

(4) Notwithstanding Subsection (2)(a), and except as provided by Subsection (5), the county legislative body may not:

(a) establish or abolish ~~[any]~~ a voting precinct after January 1 of a regular general election year;

(b) alter or change the boundaries of ~~[any]~~ a voting precinct after January 1 of a regular general election year; or

(c) establish, divide, abolish, alter, or change a voting precinct between January 1 of a year immediately preceding the year in which an enumeration is required by the United States Constitution, and the day on which the Legislature divides the state into districts in accordance with Utah Constitution, Article IX, Section 1.

(5) A county legislative body may establish, divide, abolish, alter, or change a voting

precinct on or before January 31 of a regular general election year that immediately follows the calendar year in which the Legislature divides the state into districts in accordance with Utah Constitution, Article IX, Section 1.

(6)(a) For the purpose of voting in an election, the county legislative body may establish a common polling place for two or more whole voting precincts.

(b) At least 90 days before the date of the election, the county legislative body shall designate:

(i) ~~[the voting precincts]~~ each voting precinct that will vote at the common polling place; and

(ii) the location of the common polling place.

(c) A county may use one set of election judges for the common polling place under this Subsection (6).

(7) Each county shall have at least two polling places open for voting on the date of the election.

(8) Each common polling place shall have at least one voting device that is accessible for individuals with disabilities in accordance with Public Law 107-252, the Help America Vote Act of 2002.

Section 2. Section **20A-5-303.5** is enacted to read:

20A-5-303.5 . Voting precinct boundaries -- Adjustment by county clerk.

(1) Notwithstanding Section 20A-5-303, and except as provided in Subsection (3), the county clerk may adjust the boundaries of a voting precinct in order to:

(a) match the current boundaries of a local political subdivision; or

(b) match the resulting boundaries of a local political subdivision that expands, divides, alters, or changes the local political subdivision's boundaries.

(2)(a) A county clerk who adjusts the boundaries of a voting precinct under Subsection (1) shall, no later than 65 days before the date of an election, file with the Utah Geospatial Resource Center, created in Section 63A-16-505, a notice that:

(i) describes the reason for the voting precinct boundary adjustment; and

(ii) specifies the resulting boundaries of the voting precinct affected by the adjustment.

(b) The county clerk shall provide a copy of the notice described in Subsection (2)(a) to the county legislative body.

(3) A county clerk may not adjust the boundaries of a voting precinct if the number of active voters in the resulting voting precinct is more than the limit of active voters in a

100 voting precinct under Subsection 20A-5-303(2)(a).
101 (4) A county clerk's adjustment of a voting precinct's boundaries under this section is not
102 effective until the county clerk files the notice described in Subsection (2)(a).
103 Section 3. **Effective date.**
104 This bill takes effect on May 7, 2025.