

**ELECTION LAW VOTER REGISTRATION AND  
ELECTION NOTICE AMENDMENTS**

2003 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Sponsor: Douglas C. Aagard**

**This act modifies the Election Code to clarify that a voter may not change party affiliation at a satellite voter registration location, but shall comply with the provision regulating the process for changing party affiliation. This act eliminates the requirement that the lieutenant governor post notice of elections if notice of the election is published.**

This act affects sections of Utah Code Annotated 1953 as follows:

AMENDS:

**20A-2-203**, as last amended by Chapter 45, Laws of Utah 1999

**20A-5-101**, as last amended by Chapters 40 and 362, Laws of Utah 1998

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

Section 1. Section **20A-2-203** is amended to read:

**20A-2-203. Satellite location -- Registration by satellite registrar.**

- (1) (a) Each county clerk shall designate at least one satellite location for voter registration for every 25,000 people residing within the county.
- (b) A county clerk may designate as many satellite locations as desired.
- (2) (a) Any person who meets the voter registration requirements may register to vote with a satellite registrar at any satellite location within the person's county of residence between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m.:
- (i) on the Friday and Monday, the eighth and eleventh day, before the regular primary election in counties holding a primary election;
  - (ii) on the Friday and Monday, the eighth and eleventh day, before the regular general election;
  - (iii) on the Friday and Monday, the eighth and eleventh day, before the municipal primary election in municipalities holding a municipal primary election; and
  - (iv) on the Friday and Monday, the eighth and eleventh day, before the municipal

general election.

(b) Each satellite registrar shall register to vote all persons who:

(i) present themselves for registration; and

(ii) are legally qualified and entitled to vote in that voting precinct on election day.

(3) (a) Unless the voter is registering for the first time, a voter may not designate or change the voter's political party affiliation at the satellite location for voter registration on the dates established in Subsection (2)(a)(i) for primary election voter registration.

(b) A voter wanting to change political party affiliation shall comply with the requirements of Section 20A-2-107.

~~[(3)]~~ (4) For municipal elections, the municipality in which the registration is made shall pay the expenses of registration.

Section 2. Section **20A-5-101** is amended to read:

**20A-5-101. Notice of election.**

(1) On or before February 1 in each regular general election year, the lieutenant governor shall prepare and transmit a written notice to each county clerk that:

(a) designates the offices to be filled at the regular general election;

(b) identifies the dates for filing a declaration of candidacy for those offices; and

(c) contains a description of any ballot propositions to be decided by the voters that have qualified for the ballot as of that date.

(2) (a) No later than February 10, each county clerk shall:

(i) publish a notice once in a newspaper published in that county; ~~and~~ or

(ii) (A) cause a copy of the notice to be posted in a conspicuous place most likely to give notice of the election to the voters in each voting precinct within the county; and

(B) prepare an affidavit of that posting, showing a copy of the notice and the places where the notice was posted.

(b) The notice required by Subsection (2)(a) shall:

(i) designate the offices to be voted on in that election in that county, other than special district offices; and

(ii) identify the dates for filing a declaration of candidacy for those offices.

(3) Before each election, the election officer shall give written or printed notice of:

(a) the date and place of election;

(b) the hours during which the polls will be open;

(c) the polling places for each voting precinct; and

(d) the qualifications for persons to vote in the election.

(4) To provide the notice required by Subsection (3), the election officer shall publish the notice at least two days before the election in a newspaper of general circulation common to the area or in which the election is being held.