

No. 89, S.]

[Published April 29, 1953.

**CHAPTER 76.**

AN ACT to create 9.045 and 9.046 of the statutes, relating to extending the right to vote for presidential and vice presidential electors to persons who have resided in the state for less than one year, and providing penalties.

*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. 9.045 and 9.046 of the statutes are created to read:

9.045 NEW RESIDENTS ELIGIBLE TO VOTE. A person who has been a resident of this state for less than one year prior to the date of a presidential election shall be entitled to vote for presidential and vice presidential electors in such election, but for no other offices, providing he was either a qualified elector in another state immediately prior to his removal to this state or would have been eligible to vote in such other state had he remained there until such election, and provided further that he would be a qualified elector under s. 6.01 except that he has not resided in the state for one year.

9.046 VOTING BY NEW RESIDENTS. A person qualifying under s. 9.045 and desiring to vote for presidential and vice presidential electors shall not be required to register in order to vote but shall apply for and cast his ballot as follows:

(1) APPLICATIONS FOR BALLOT. Applications for a ballot shall be made in person to the clerk of the county or of the municipality of applicant's residence during regular office hours not sooner than 10 days nor later than one day prior to the election. At the time of making application, the applicant shall submit to the clerk a certified statement from the municipal clerk, or equivalent official, of his former residence to the effect that the applicant was a qualified voter in the other state immediately prior to his removal to Wisconsin or that he would have been qualified to vote in the presidential election had he remained in such other state.

(2) VOTING PROCEDURE. (a) If satisfied that the certification required in sub. (1) is in good order, the clerk shall give the applicant a ballot containing the names of candidates for the offices of president and vice president. The applicant shall mark the ballot in the presence of the clerk alone in such manner as the clerk cannot see the markings. He shall then fold the ballot in the clerk's presence so as to conceal the markings, deposit and seal it in an envelope furnished by the clerk and execute the affidavit prescribed in par. (b).

(b) The envelope shall bear upon its face the name and official title of the clerk and upon the other side a printed affidavit in substantially the following form:

STATE OF WISCONSIN }  
                                  } SS.  
County of..... }

I, ....., do solemnly swear that I am a citizen of the United States, that on the day of the next election I shall be at least 21 years of age, that within one year from this date I established permanent residency in Wisconsin and am a resident of the ..... precinct of the (town) (village) of ..... or of the ..... ward in the city of ....., residing at ..... in said city and the county of ..... and the state of Wisconsin; that immediately prior to my removal to this state I resided in the state of ....., county of ....., (city) (town) (village) of ....., where I was a

qualified elector at the time of my removal (or) where I would have been qualified to vote in the next presidential election had I maintained my residency there.

Subscribed and sworn to before me  
this ..... day of .....

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of voter

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of (county) (city) (town) (village) clerk

(c) The clerk shall inclose the envelope containing the ballot in a carrier envelope which shall be securely sealed and endorsed with the name and qualified title of the clerk and the words, "This envelope contains the vote for presidential and vice presidential electors of a new resident and must be opened only at the polls on election day while said polls are open", and the clerk shall keep the envelope in his office until delivered by him to the inspectors of election as provided in sub. (4).

(3) LIST OF NEW RESIDENT VOTERS FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION. The county or municipal clerk shall keep open to public inspection a list of all persons who have voted as new residents with the name, address and application date of each such voter.

(4) DELIVERY AND DEPOSIT OF BALLOTS. (a) County and municipal clerks shall deliver the ballots of new residents to the inspectors of election for the precinct in which the new resident voter resides in the manner prescribed by s. 11.61 for absentee ballots.

(b) While the polls are open on election day, the inspectors shall open each carrier envelope containing the inner envelope and ballot and shall announce the voter's name. If the inspectors find that the affidavit is duly executed and that the voter is qualified in that precinct under this section, they shall open the inner envelope so as not to tear the affidavit, take out the ballot without unfolding and, after determining that the ballot is endorsed by the issuing clerk, deposit in the proper ballot box. The inspector shall then enter the voter's name in the poll book with a notation designating him as a new resident voting for presidential and vice presidential electors only.

(c) The inspectors shall reject a vote if the affidavit is insufficient, if the voter is not a qualified elector under this section in such precinct or if the ballot is open or has been opened and resealed. Such ballots shall be processed in the manner provided for rejected absentee ballots by s. 11.62.

(5) CHALLENGE OF NEW RESIDENT'S VOTE. The vote of any new resident under this section may be challenged for cause and the inspectors of election shall have all the powers and authority conferred upon them by ss. 6.50 to 6.53 in respect to hearing and determining the legality of challenged votes.

(6) DEATH OF VOTER. Whenever it appears by due proof to the inspectors of election that any person casting a vote under this section has died prior to the date of the election, the inspector shall return such ballot with defective ballots to the official issuing it.

(7) IN CITIES OF THE FIRST CLASS. In cities of the first class, application for ballots shall be made to the secretary of the board of election commissioners who shall perform all the duties required of city clerks by this section.

(8) PENALTIES. Any person wilfully swearing falsely to any affidavit shall be punished pursuant to s. 346.02. If any county or municipal clerk or any election officer shall refuse or neglect to perform any of the duties prescribed by this section or violate any of its provisions he shall be fined not less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000 or imprisoned not to exceed 90 days.

SECTION 2. The question of whether the foregoing provisions of this act shall take effect and be in force shall be submitted to a vote of the people of this state, in a manner provided by law for the submission of an amendment to the constitution, at the next general election to be held in November, 1954. If approved by a majority of all the votes cast on that subject at such election, it shall take effect and be in force from and after such approval by the people; otherwise it shall be of no effect. Upon the ballot shall be printed, "Shall Chapter \_\_\_\_\_ (insert on the ballot the number of chapter) of the laws of 1953, entitled 'An act extending the right to vote for presidential and vice presidential electors to persons who have resided in the state for less than one year' be adopted?" The secretary of state shall within 10 days after the receipt of the returns from the county clerks canvass, certify, record and publish as in the case of a constitutional amendment the number of ballots cast in favor of such proposed extension of suffrage and the number of ballots cast against it.

Approved April 24, 1953.