

Uniting,  
dividing  
precincts.

district election, the election authority of any such municipality or district may combine, unite, or divide precincts for the purpose of holding such election: *Provided*, That in the event such election shall be held upon the day of any state primary or state general election this act shall not apply.

Emergency.

SEC. 2. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately.

Passed the House March 2, 1951.

Passed the Senate March 5, 1951.

Approved by the Governor March 13, 1951.

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## CHAPTER 71.

[ H. B. 432. ]

### ELECTIONS IN SECOND CLASS CITIES.

AN ACT relating to elections in second class cities, and amending sections 35.23.040 and 35.23.070, R.C.W.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:*

Amendment.

SECTION 1. Section 35.23.040, R.C.W., as derived from section 4, chapter 241, Laws of 1907, and section 4, chapter 120, Laws of 1909, is amended to read as follows:

Municipal  
elections;  
when held in  
2nd class city  
not having  
commission  
form.

A general municipal election shall be held biennially in second class cities not operating under the commission form of government and shall be held on the second Tuesday in March of each even-numbered year. The term of office of mayor, city clerk, city treasurer and councilmen in such cities shall be four years, and until their successors are elected and qualified, but not more than six councilmen shall be elected in any one year to fill a full term. The term of office of police judge shall be two

Terms of  
officers.

years and until his successor is elected and qualified. The officers elected at such municipal election shall take office on the first Monday of June following their election: *Provided*, That such city officers, except the police judge, elected to office at the election held during the year 1951, whose terms, but for this act, would have expired on the first Monday in June, 1953, shall remain in office until (1) at the regular election to be held on the second Tuesday of March, 1954, their successors have been elected, and (2) such successors have, upon the first Monday in June, 1954, or thereafter, qualified for the office: *Provided further*, That the police judge shall not be elected for a two-year term until the regular election to be held during the year 1952.

[Am. R.R.S. §§ 9008 and 9009.]

SEC. 2. Section 35.23.070, R.C.W., as derived from section 7, chapter 241, Laws of 1907, is amended to read as follows: Amendment.

The city council as constituted at the time of the election, or as it may be constituted between that date and the first Monday of June following, shall hear and determine any and all contested elections of any and all city offices. The city council shall have power by general ordinance to prescribe rules and regulations for the hearing of contested elections of city officers, but proceedings before the city council in cases of contested elections shall conform as near as may be to the provisions of the general election laws, relating to contested elections. Election contests.

[Am. R.R.S. § 9012.]

Passed the House March 2, 1951.

Passed the Senate March 5, 1951.

Approved by the Governor March 13, 1951.