

**25-212. Arrangement of names on ballots; rotation.** In case there are nomination petitions or declarations of intention to become a candidate on file for more than one candidate or for more than one pair of candidates for governor and lieutenant governor, of the same party for any national or state office, the secretary of state shall divide the state or appropriate part thereof, into as many divisions as there are names to go on such party ballot for that office. Such divisions shall be as nearly equal in number of members of such party as is convenient without dividing any one county. In making such division the secretary of state shall take the alphabetical list of counties in regular order until the secretary of state gets the required proportion of party members of such party based upon the party affiliation lists as shown by the certificates of the respective county election officers, and so on through the list of counties until the secretary of state gets the proper proportion of party members in each division. The secretary of state shall also take the alphabetical list of candidates or pairs of candidates in regular order and in certifying to the county election officer the list of names for whom nomination petitions or declarations of intent to become a candidate have been filed, shall place one name or pair of candidates at the head of the list in the first division of counties, another in the second division, and so on with all the candidates for any particular office, so that every candidate or pair of candidates for any office shall be at the head of the list in one division of the state and second in another division thereof, and so forth. When, in the case of candidates for the office of congressman, district judge, district magistrate judge, state senator, state representative or state board of education member, the secretary of state finds that the secretary of state cannot get a fair proportion of party members to give each candidate for congressman, district judge, district magistrate judge, state senator, state representative or state board of education member in any given district an equitable or fair opportunity to have the candidate's name first on the ballot in the respective counties of the district, the secretary of state shall order the county election officers in the various counties of the district to rotate the names of the candidates for such district offices according to precinct. If voting machines are used the arrangement of names of candidates or pair of candidates for all offices on the voting machines shall be rotated, as near as may be, according to precinct.

The arrangement of the names certified by the secretary of state shall govern the county election officer in arranging the primary election ballot, and the county election officer in preparing the ballot for such officer's county shall follow the same arrangement as provided in this section for the secretary of state, for the candidates nominated for county offices, using the township and precincts of the county in making the division.

**History:** L. 1909, ch. 136, § 4; L. 1915, ch. 204, § 6; R.S. 1923, 25-212; L. 1961, ch. 200, § 1; L. 1966, ch. 5, § 1 (Special Session); L. 1968, ch. 406, § 75; L. 1972, ch. 128, § 1; L. 1973, ch. 153, § 13; L. 1976, ch. 181, § 1; L. 1986, ch. 115, § 71; Jan. 12, 1987.