

Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior

§81.10

(f) For a reorganized tribe to ratify a charter or to adopt a charter amendment, any adult member who has duly registered shall be entitled to vote, provided that if the tribe is of a reservation, only duly registered members physically residing on the reservation shall be entitled to vote.

§81.7 Adoption, ratification, or revocation by majority vote.

Except as it may be further limited by this part, a constitution and bylaws, amendments thereto, or charter and charter amendments shall be considered adopted, ratified, or revoked if a majority of those actually voting are in favor of adoption, ratification, or revocation. The total vote cast, however, must be at least 30 percent of those entitled to vote, unless, with regard to amendments, the constitution provides otherwise. The names of persons appearing on the registration list who have not reached eighteen years of age by the date of the election, shall be removed from the list of registered voters when determining whether the required percentage of participation has been achieved. Unless the existing constitution or charter provides otherwise, none of the actions cited in this section shall become effective until they are approved by the Secretary. The validity of any charter ratification shall be dependent upon the tribe first having reorganized. Duly ratified charters shall be revoked or surrendered only by Act of Congress.

§81.8 Election board.

(a) There shall be an election board consisting of the officer in charge acting as chairman and at least two representatives of the tribal governing body or an authorized representative committee. Where such persons may be unwilling or unable to serve, the chairman shall select at least two adult members of the tribe to serve. In addition, the officer in charge may appoint an interpreter and as many clerks and poll watchers as he/she deems necessary, but they shall not be members of the board.

(b) It shall be the duty of the board to conduct elections in compliance with the procedures described in this part and in particular:

(1) To see that the name of each person offering to vote is on the official list of registered voters;

(2) To keep the ballot boxes locked at all times except when ballots are being counted;

(3) To see that ballots are cast only by registered voters and that the voting list is checked to indicate this;

(4) To begin to count the regularly cast ballots immediately after the close of the polls and then the absentee ballots, pursuant to §81.21;

(5) To post and certify the election returns;

(6) To return the following to the officer in charge:

(i) The ballots (in marked and locked boxes);

(ii) All unused ballots; and

(iii) The completed Certificate of Results of Election. The officer in charge shall retain the ballots and other material among official records for at least one year. At the end of one year, the officer in charge shall forward the contents of the boxes and other related material to the appropriate Federal Records Center.

§81.9 Voting districts.

If: (a) Voting districts have not already been designated for tribal elections in the tribal constitution or by tribal election ordinance or resolution; and (b) in the election board's judgment voting districts are needed, the board shall establish them and designate a polling place for each district. Where a reservation exists, no voting district may be established beyond its boundaries.

§81.10 District Election Boards.

(a) Where voting districts have been established by the tribal constitution, ordinance, resolution, or by the election board, the election board shall appoint district election boards for each district, which shall have the duties prescribed above for the election board except that they shall return to the election board:

(1) The ballots (in marked and locked boxes),

(2) All unused ballots, and

(3) Their certifications of the district election results on the certification forms prescribed by the election board.