



The amendment is intended to make voting in constitutional elections simpler and more equitable, BIA officials said, and may also increase Indian participation in local, State and national elections by familiarizing Indians with voter registration procedure.

The addition of a new Part 53, Title 25 CFR is designed to clarify and standardize procedures to be followed by tribal members who have the right to petition the Secretary or the Commissioner to call a special election to amend a tribal constitution. In the past there has been no all-encompassing procedure for preparing and processing the petitions and inconsistencies and misunderstandings have resulted. The proposed new regulations would establish such rules as the format for petitions; procedures for their filing; and the manner of determining their validity.

# # #