

passed shall have been counted and the returns completed. If in case of absolute necessity, any judge or clerk in attendance shall be compelled to absent himself, he shall appoint some fit person to act in his stead until his return, having first administered to such substitute the same oath as he himself has taken. Blank forms for the appointment of such substitute judges and clerks and oath aforesaid shall be supplied by the city register and the oath when administered, shall be preserved and returned by the judges to said city register. The appointment and swearing in of all such substitutes, and the reason therefor, and the time when such substitutes begin and cease to serve shall be noted by the judge in the poll book of the precinct; such substitute shall cease to act whenever the judge or clerk in whose stead he was appointed shall be present.

SEC. 270YY. The judges of election at the opening of the polls, if requested, shall appoint not more than two persons to act as challengers who shall be assigned to such positions near the judges of election inside the registration polling room, as to enable them to see each person as he offers to register or vote, and they shall be protected in the discharge of their duties by the judges of election and the police. Such challenger and watcher shall have the right to remain in the polling room outside the rail hereinafter mentioned, from the time the polls are opened until they are closed, and after that time he shall be permitted to remain within the rail until the returns are completed. The refusal to permit any such challenger so to remain shall be a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars, or by imprisonment not exceeding one year or both fine and imprisonment, but it shall be unlawful for any challenger to inquire or ascertain for what candidate or candidates, any voter may intend to vote or has voted, or to confer in the polling room with any voter, or to assist him in the preparation of his ballot, and any challenger offering or attempting to do so may lawfully be ejected by the judges, and shall also be subject to the punishment hereinafter provided. Citizens other than accredited challengers or watchers who desire to challenge a vote of any person then inside the polling room, shall be permitted to enter said room for that purpose, but a majority of the judges may limit the number of persons to be allowed in the polling room at any one time for such purpose. And all such persons shall leave the polling room as soon as the right to vote of the persons challenged by them shall have been decided.