State of Arkansas
86th General Assembly

## A Bill

Regular Session, 2007
HOUSE BILL 2367

By: Representative Greenberg

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING THE MANNER OF CHOOSING AND ELECTION OF ELECTORS OF PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 7-8-302(5), concerning the manner of choosing and election of electors of President and Vice President of the United States, is amended to read as follows:
(5)(A)(i) In order to have the name of a political party's candidates for President and Vice President printed on the ballot, a political party shall hold a presidential preferential primary election.
(ii) A new political party formed pursuant to the petition process may nominate by convention if the presidential election is the first general election after certification as a party by the Secretary of State.
(B) A political group desiring to have the names of its candidates for President and Vice President printed on the ballot shall file a petition with the Secretary of State by noon on the first Monday of August of the year of the election. The petition shall contain at the time of filing the names of one thousand (1,000) qualified electors of the state declaring
their desire to have printed on the ballot the names of their candidate for President and Vice President. The Secretary of State shall verify the sufficiency of the petition within ten (10) days from the filing of the petition. If the petition is determined to be insufficient, the Secretary of State shall notify in writing the political group through its designated agent and shall set forth his or her reasons for so finding. When notice is delivered, the sponsors shall have an additional ten (10) days in which to do any or all of the following:
(i) Solicit and obtain additional signatures;
(ii) Submit proof to show that the rejected
signatures or some of them are good and should be counted; of
(iii) Make the petition more definite and certain.
(C) Any amendments and corrections shall not materially change the purpose and effect of the petition. No changes shall be made in the petition, except to correct apparent typographical errors or omissions.
(D)(C) Any challenges to the certification of the Secretary of State shall be filed in the Circuit Court of Pulaski County.
(E)(D) By September $15 \underline{1}$ in the year of the election, a political group which qualifies by petition to place its candidate on the ballot shall submit a certificate of choice stating the names of its candidates for President and Vice President, signed under oath by either the chair, vice chair, or secretary of the political group's convention.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 7-8-302, concerning the manner of choosing and election of electors of President and Vice President of the United States, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows: (6)(A) Persons desiring to have their names printed on the ballot as independent candidates for President and Vice President shall file a petition with the Secretary of State by noon on the first Monday of August of the year of the election. The petition shall contain at the time of filing the names of one thousand (1,000) qualified electors of the state declaring their desire to have printed on the ballot the names of the persons desiring their names to be printed on the ballot as independent candidates for President and Vice President. The Secretary of State shall verify the sufficiency of the petition within ten (10) days from the filing of the petition. If the petition is determined to be insufficient, the Secretary of

State shall notify in writing the persons desiring to have their names printed on the ballot as independent candidates for President and Vice President at the address or telephone number submitted with the petition and shall set forth his or her reasons for so finding.
(B) Any challenges to the certification of the Secretary of State shall be filed in the Pulaski County Circuit Court.
(C) By September 1 in the year of the election,
independent candidates who qualify by petition to be on the ballot shall certify to the Secretary of State the total list of electors together with electors at large. The filing of the certificate with the Secretary of State shall be deemed and taken to be the choosing and selection of the electors of this state, if the independent candidate is successful at the polls, as provided in this subchapter.

