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2 89th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2013
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1412

5 By: Representatives Shepherd, Steel, Eubanks, Vines, Wright
6 By: Senators Irvin, J. Woods
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS LAW CONCERNING NONPARTISAN
10 ELECTIONS; TO ESTABLISH CERTAIN OFFICES AS
11 NONPARTISAN; TO SET UNIFORM ELECTION DATES FOR
12 NONPARTISAN OFFICES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
13
14

Subtitle

16 TO AMEND ARKANSAS LAW CONCERNING
17 NONPARTISAN ELECTIONS; TO ESTABLISH
18 CERTAIN OFFICES AS NONPARTISAN; AND TO
19 SET UNIFORM ELECTION DATES FOR
20 NONPARTISAN OFFICES.
21
22

23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
24

25 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 7-1-101, concerning definitions, is amended
26 to add three new subdivisions to read as follows:

27 (35)(A) "Nonpartisan candidate" means a candidate for the office
28 of Justice of the Supreme Court, Judge of the Court of Appeals, circuit
29 judge, district judge, or prosecuting attorney.

30 (B) "Nonpartisan candidate" does not include a candidate
31 for nonpartisan municipal office;

32 (36)(A) "Nonpartisan election" means a general, special, or
33 runoff election for the office of Justice of the Supreme Court, Judge of the
34 Court of Appeals, circuit judge, district judge, or prosecuting attorney.

35 (B) "Nonpartisan election" does not include a general,
36 special, or runoff election for a nonpartisan municipal office;



1 (37)(A) "Nonpartisan office" means the office of Justice of the
 2 Supreme Court, Judge of the Court of Appeals, circuit judge, district judge,
 3 or prosecuting attorney.

4 (B) "Nonpartisan office" does not include a nonpartisan
 5 municipal office; and

6
 7 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 7-4-101(f)(11), concerning the authority of
 8 the State Board of Election Commissioners, is amended to read as follows:

9 (11) Administer reimbursement of election expenses to counties
 10 in accordance with § 7-7-201(a) for primary elections, statewide special
 11 elections, and nonpartisan ~~judicial~~ general elections.

12
 13 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 7-5-102 is amended to read as follows:

14 7-5-102. Time of general election.

15 On the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November in every even-
 16 numbered year, there shall be held an election in each precinct and ward in
 17 this state for the election of ~~all~~:

18 (1) All elective state, county, and township officers whose term
 19 of office is fixed at two (2) years by the Arkansas Constitution or the
 20 General Assembly; ~~for state~~

21 (2) State senators in their respective districts when the terms
 22 for which the state senators have been elected expire before the next general
 23 election; ~~for Representatives in the Congress of the~~

24 (3) Members of the United States House of Representatives for
 25 each congressional district in this state; and ~~for~~

26 (4) United States Senators when the term of office of any United
 27 States Senator expires before the next general election; ~~and for prosecuting~~
 28 ~~attorney in this state.~~

29
 30 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 7-5-207(d), concerning names printed on
 31 ballots, is amended to read as follows:

32 (d)(1) ~~Beside or adjacent to~~ Adjacent to the name of each candidate in
 33 the general election shall be:

34 (A) His or her party designation; or

35 (B) The term "INDEPENDENT" if he or she represents no
 36 officially recognized party.

1 (2) Subdivision (d)(1) of this section ~~shall~~ does not apply to
2 a:

- 3 (A) Nonpartisan ~~judicial~~ election; or
4 (B) Nonpartisan municipal election.
5

6 SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 7-5-406(c)(1), concerning preparation of
7 special absentee ballots for members of uniformed services and other citizens
8 outside the United States, is amended to read as follows:

9 (c)(1)~~(A) Except as provided in subdivision (c)(1)(B) of this section,~~
10 ~~for~~ For the qualified electors in the categories named in subsection (a) of
11 this section who are temporarily outside the territorial limits of the United
12 States, the county board of election commissioners shall prepare a special
13 absentee ballot for each preferential primary ~~and~~, general election, and
14 nonpartisan election to be sent to the voter in addition to the regular
15 absentee ballot.

16 ~~(B) The county board of election commissioners shall not~~
17 ~~prepare a special absentee ballot for a nonpartisan judicial election.~~
18

19 SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 7-5-407(a), concerning the preparation and
20 delivery of absentee ballots, is amended to read as follows:

21 (a)(1) The county board of election commissioners shall prepare
22 official absentee ballots and deliver them to the county clerk for mailing to
23 all qualified applicants as soon as practicable but ~~in any event~~ not later
24 than forty-seven (47) days before a preferential primary, general election,
25 school election, nonpartisan ~~judicial~~ general election, ~~nonpartisan judicial~~
26 ~~runoff election~~, or any special election.
27

28 SECTION 7. Arkansas Code § 7-6-102 is amended to read as follows:

29 7-6-102. Political practices pledge – Penalty for falsification.

30 (a)(1) ~~Candidates for political party nominations for state or~~
31 ~~district offices shall file with the Secretary of State and candidates for~~
32 ~~county, municipal, or township offices shall file with the county clerk of~~
33 ~~the county during~~ During the filing period set out in § 7-7-203 for the
34 preferential primary election, a written pledge ~~in writing~~ stating that ~~they~~
35 ~~are~~ the candidate is familiar with the requirements of §§ 7-1-103, 7-1-104,
36 7-3-108, 7-6-101, 7-6-103, 7-6-104, and this section and will comply in good

1 faith with their terms, shall be filed by a candidate for:

2 (A) A political party nomination for a state or district
3 office with the Secretary of State; and

4 (B) A county, municipal, or township office with the
5 county clerk.

6 (2) ~~Persons seeking nomination as independent candidates and~~
7 ~~school district candidates~~ An independent candidate or school district
8 candidate shall file the political practices pledge at the time of filing the
9 petition for nomination.

10 (3) ~~Independent candidates~~ Candidate for nonpartisan municipal
11 office shall file the political practices pledge with the county clerk at the
12 time of filing the petition for nomination.

13 (4) ~~Persons who wish to be write-in candidates~~ Write-in
14 candidates shall file the political practices pledge at the time of filing
15 the notice to be a write-in candidate.

16 (5) ~~Nonpartisan judicial candidates~~ A nonpartisan candidate
17 paying filing fees in accordance with § 7-10-103(b) shall file the political
18 practices pledge at the time of filing for office.

19 (6) ~~Nonpartisan judicial candidates~~ A nonpartisan candidate
20 filing by petition ~~in accordance with~~ according to § 7-10-103(c) shall file
21 the political practices pledge at the time of filing the petition.

22 (b) All political practices pledge forms for state or district offices
23 and county, municipal, or township offices shall ~~be required to~~ contain the
24 following additional pledge:

25 "I hereby certify that I have never been convicted of a felony in Arkansas or
26 in any other jurisdiction outside of Arkansas."

27 (c) ~~Any~~ A person who ~~has been convicted of a felony and~~ knowingly and
28 falsely signs the pledge stating that he or she has not been convicted of a
29 felony ~~shall be~~ is guilty of a Class D felony.

30 (d) For purposes of this section, a person shall be qualified to be a
31 candidate for a state, district, county, municipal, and township office and
32 may certify that he or she has never been convicted of a felony if his or her
33 record was expunged in accordance with §§ 16-93-301 – 16-93-303, or a similar
34 expunction statute in another state, ~~provided, if~~ if the candidate presents a
35 certificate of expunction from the court that convicted the ~~prospective~~
36 candidate.

1 (e)(1) The name of a candidate who fails to sign and file the pledge
 2 shall not appear on the ballot.

3 (2)(A) ~~However, within~~ Within five (5) days ~~from which of the~~
 4 date the pledge is required to be filed, the Secretary of State or the county
 5 clerk shall notify by certified mail that requires a return receipt signed by
 6 the candidate those candidates who have failed to file a signed political
 7 practice pledge. ~~The notice shall~~ and include a copy of the written pledge
 8 required by this section.

9 (B) ~~Failure of~~ If within twenty (20) days of receipt or
 10 refusal of this notice the state or district candidate fails to file a signed
 11 political practices pledge with the Secretary of State ~~or of~~ , or if the
 12 county, municipal, or township candidate fails to file a signed political
 13 practice pledge with the county clerk ~~within twenty (20) days of receipt or~~
 14 ~~refusal of this notice shall prevent,~~ the candidate's name ~~from appearing~~
 15 shall not appear on the ballot.

16
 17 SECTION 8. Arkansas Code § 7-6-203(h)(3)(B), concerning disposition of
 18 campaign contributions, is amended to read as follows:

19 (B) For an unopposed ~~candidates for~~ nonpartisan ~~judicial~~
 20 ~~office~~ candidate, the affidavit may be filed after the deadlines have passed
 21 to declare as a filing fee candidate, petition candidate, or write-in
 22 candidate under § 7-10-103.

23
 24 SECTION 9. Arkansas Code § 7-7-306 is amended to read as follows:

25 7-7-306. Partisan and nonpartisan ~~judicial~~ election ballots.

26 (a) At each party primary and nonpartisan ~~judicial~~ general election,
 27 each county board of election commissioners shall furnish ~~separate ballots~~ a
 28 separate ballot for each political party containing:

29 (1) ~~The names of persons seeking offices~~ name of each person
 30 seeking an office to be voted on as a nominee or candidate of that political
 31 party;

32 (2) ~~The names of all qualified candidates~~ name of each candidate
 33 for the general election to a nonpartisan ~~judicial offices~~ office under § 7-
 34 10-101; and

35 (3) All measures and questions, if any, to be decided by the
 36 voters.

1 (b) The county board of election commissioners shall also furnish a
 2 separate ~~nonpartisan~~ ballot containing the names of all qualified candidates
 3 for the general election to nonpartisan ~~judicial~~ offices and all measures, if
 4 any, to be decided by the voters.

5
 6 SECTION 10. The name of Arkansas Code Title 7, Chapter 10, is changed
 7 from "Nonpartisan Election of Judges" to "Nonpartisan Elections". The
 8 Arkansas Code Revision Commission shall make all changes in the Arkansas Code
 9 necessary to implement this section.

10
 11 SECTION 11. Arkansas Code § 7-10-101 is repealed:

12 ~~7-10-101. Definitions.~~

13 ~~For the purposes of this chapter:~~

14 (1) ~~"Nonpartisan judicial office" means the offices of Justice~~
 15 ~~of the Supreme Court, Judge of the Court of Appeals, circuit judge, and~~
 16 ~~district judge; and~~

17 (2) ~~"Political party" has the same meaning as provided in § 7-1-~~
 18 ~~101.~~

19
 20 SECTION 12. Arkansas Code § 7-10-102 is amended to read as follows:

21 7-10-102. Nonpartisan election of judges ~~and~~, justices, and prosecuting
 22 attorneys.

23 (a) The offices of Justice of the Supreme Court, Judge of the Court of
 24 Appeals, circuit judge, ~~and~~ district judge, and prosecuting attorney are
 25 ~~declared to be~~ nonpartisan offices.

26 (b)(1) The general elections for nonpartisan ~~judicial~~ offices shall be
 27 held on the same ~~dates~~ date and at the same times and places as provided by
 28 law for preferential primary elections.

29 (2)(A) The names of ~~candidates for nonpartisan judicial offices~~
 30 candidates shall be ~~included;~~

31 (i) Included on the ballots of the political
 32 parties; ~~and shall be designated~~

33 (ii) Designated as nonpartisan ~~judicial~~ candidates.

34 ~~However, separate~~

35 (B) Separate ballots containing the names of nonpartisan
 36 ~~judicial~~ candidates shall be prepared;

1 (i) Prepared; and shall be made

2 (ii) Made available to voters requesting the same a
 3 separate ballot.

4 (3) ~~No voter shall~~ A voter shall not be required to vote in a
 5 political party's preferential primary ~~in order~~ to be able to vote in a
 6 nonpartisan ~~judicial elections~~ election.

7 (c)(1) A person shall not be elected to ~~a nonpartisan judicial office~~
 8 ~~without receiving~~ the office of Justice of the Supreme Court, Judge of the
 9 Court of Appeals, circuit judge, or district judge unless the person receives
 10 a majority of the votes cast at the election for the office.

11 (2) In ~~any a~~ nonpartisan ~~judicial~~ election in which no person
 12 receives a majority of the votes cast, the two (2) candidates receiving the
 13 highest and next highest number of votes shall be certified to a runoff
 14 election, which shall be held ~~on the same date and at the same times and~~
 15 ~~places as the November~~ the second Tuesday in June preceding the general
 16 election.

17 (3)(A) The names of the candidates in a nonpartisan ~~judicial~~
 18 runoff election shall be ~~placed;~~

19 (i) Included on the same ballots as used for the
 20 ~~November general elections~~ general primary election; and

21 (ii) Designated as nonpartisan candidates.

22 (B) Separate ballots containing the names of nonpartisan
 23 candidates shall be:

24 (i) Prepared; and

25 (ii) Made available to voters requesting a separate
 26 ballot.

27
 28 SECTION 13. Arkansas Code § 7-10-103 is amended to read as follows:

29 7-10-103. Filing as a candidate — ~~Judicial Filing Fee Fund.~~

30 (a) A candidate for a nonpartisan ~~judicial~~ office ~~may pay~~ under this
 31 chapter shall:

32 (1) Pay a filing fee as provided for in this chapter, file;

33 (2) File a petition in the manner provided for in this chapter,
 34 or file; or

35 (3) File as a write-in candidate in the manner as provided for
 36 in this chapter.

1 (b)(1) The State Board of Election Commissioners shall establish
2 reasonable filing fees for nonpartisan ~~judicial~~ offices.

3 (2)(A)(i) ~~The filing fee~~ A candidate for the ~~offices~~ office of
4 Justice of the Supreme Court, Judge of the Court of Appeals, ~~and~~ circuit
5 judge, or prosecuting attorney who chooses to pay by filing fee shall ~~be paid~~
6 pay the filing fee to the Secretary of State ~~at the same time that~~ when the
7 candidate files his or her political practices pledge.

8 (ii) A candidate for the office of district judge
9 who chooses to file by paying a filing fee shall pay the filing fee to the
10 county clerk ~~at the same time that~~ when the candidate files his or her
11 political practices pledge.

12 (B) The period for paying filing fees and filing political
13 practice pledges shall be the same as the party filing period under § 7-7-
14 203.

15 (3)(A) ~~There is created on the books of the Treasurer of State,~~
16 ~~the Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State a fund to be~~
17 ~~known as the "Judicial Filing Fee Fund".~~

18 ~~(B)~~ The filing fees collected for the office of Justice of
19 the Supreme Court, Judge of the Court of Appeals, circuit judge, and district
20 judge shall be remitted to the Treasurer of State for deposit into the ~~fund~~
21 Nonpartisan Filing Fee Fund under § 19-5-1225 for covering the cost of
22 election expenses of the ~~state board~~ State Board of Election Commissioners.

23 (B)(i) Except as provided in subdivision (b)(3)(B)(ii),
24 the filing fees collected for the office of prosecuting attorney shall be
25 remitted to the Treasurer of State for deposit into the Nonpartisan Filing
26 Fee Fund under § 19-5-1225.

27 (ii) The first one hundred thousand dollars
28 (\$100,000) collected from filing fees for the office of prosecuting attorney
29 shall be remitted to the Treasurer of State for deposit into the Trial Court
30 Administrative Assistant Fund under § 19-5-1241.

31 (c)(1)(A)(i) ~~Any~~ A person ~~desiring to~~ may have his or her name placed
32 on the ballot for a nonpartisan ~~judicial~~ office without paying a filing fee
33 ~~may do so~~ by filing a petition in the manner provided for under this section.
34 ~~Petitions for Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, and circuit court positions~~ A
35 petition for a candidate for the office of Justice of the Supreme Court,
36 Judge of the Court of Appeals, circuit judge, or prosecuting attorney shall

1 be filed with the Secretary of State, and ~~petitions for district court~~
 2 ~~positions~~ a petition for a candidate for the office of district judge shall
 3 be filed with the ~~applicable~~ county clerk beginning at 12:00 noon forty-six
 4 (46) days before the first day of the party filing period under § 7-7-203 and
 5 ending at 12:00 noon thirty-two (32) days before the first day of the party
 6 filing period under § 7-7-203.

7 (ii) ~~Political practice pledges for A~~ nonpartisan
 8 ~~judicial candidates~~ candidate filing by petition shall ~~be filed at the same~~
 9 ~~time as~~ file a political practices pledge with the petition.

10 (B)(i) The petition shall ~~be~~:

11 (a) Be directed to the office with which it is
 12 to be filed; and ~~shall request~~

13 (b) Request that the name of the candidate be
 14 placed on the ballot for the election set forth in the petition. ~~Candidates~~
 15 ~~may~~

16 (ii) A candidate shall not begin circulating
 17 petitions ~~not~~ earlier than sixty (60) days ~~prior to~~ before the filing
 18 deadline.

19 (C)(i) The Secretary of State or the county clerk, ~~as the~~
 20 ~~ease may be,~~ within thirty (30) days of the filing of the petition shall
 21 ~~determine within thirty (30) days~~;

22 (a) Determine whether the petition contains
 23 the names of a sufficient number of qualified electors. ~~The Secretary of~~
 24 ~~State or county clerk shall verify~~; and

25 (b) Verify the sufficiency of the ~~petitions~~
 26 ~~within thirty (30) days of filing~~ petition.

27 (ii) The sufficiency of ~~any~~ a petition filed under
 28 ~~the provisions of~~ this section may be challenged in the same manner as
 29 provided by law for election contests, under § 7-5-801 et seq.

30 (D) ~~Qualified electors~~ A qualified elector signing the
 31 ~~petitions~~ petition must be a registered ~~voters~~ voter in the geographic area
 32 applicable to the position at the time ~~they sign~~ he or she signs the
 33 petition. Each qualified elector shall provide on the petition his or her
 34 printed;

35 (i) Printed name, ~~signature, address, date~~;

36 (ii) Signature;

- 1 (iii) Address;
- 2 (iv) Date of birth; and date
- 3 (v) Date of signing on the petition.

4 (E) In determining the number of qualified electors in the
 5 state or in any court of appeals district, circuit court circuit, or district
 6 court district, the ~~total~~ number of ~~all~~ votes cast ~~therein~~ for Governor in
 7 the immediately preceding general gubernatorial election shall be conclusive
 8 of the number of all qualified electors ~~therein~~ in the state, circuit, or
 9 district for purposes of this section.

10 (2)(A) ~~Candidates~~ A candidate by petition for Justice of the
 11 Supreme Court shall file ~~petitions~~ a petition signed by ~~at least ten~~ the
 12 lesser of:

13 (i) Three percent (3%) of the qualified electors
 14 residing within the state; and

15 (ii) Ten thousand (10,000) qualified electors ~~or~~
 16 ~~three percent (3%) of the qualified electors residing within the state,~~
 17 ~~whichever is the lesser.~~

18 (B) ~~Candidates~~ A candidate by petition for Judge of the
 19 Court of Appeals shall file ~~petitions~~ a petition signed by the lesser of:

20 (i) three Three percent (3%) of the qualified
 21 electors residing within the court of appeals district for which the
 22 candidate seeks office, but in no event shall more than two; and

23 (ii) Two thousand (2,000) signatures be required
 24 qualified electors.

25 (C) ~~Candidates~~ A candidate by petition for circuit judge
 26 shall file ~~petitions~~ a petition signed by the lesser of:

27 (i) three Three percent (3%) of the qualified
 28 electors residing within the circuit for which the candidate seeks office,
 29 ~~but in no event shall more than two; and~~

30 (ii) Two thousand (2,000) signatures be required
 31 qualified electors.

32 (D) ~~Candidates~~ A candidate by petition for district judge
 33 shall file ~~petitions~~ a petition signed by ~~at least one~~ the lesser of:

34 (i) One percent (1%) of the qualified electors
 35 residing within the district for which the candidate seeks office, but in no
 36 event shall more than two; and

1 (ii) ~~Two thousand (2,000) signatures be required~~
 2 qualified electors.

3 (E) A candidate by petition for prosecuting attorney shall
 4 file a petition signed by the lesser of:

5 (i) Three percent (3%) of the qualified electors
 6 residing within the district for which the candidate seeks office; and

7 (ii) Two thousand (2,000) qualified electors.

8 (d)(1) ~~No votes~~ Votes for a write-in candidate in a nonpartisan
 9 ~~judicial~~ election shall not be counted or tabulated unless the candidate or
 10 his or her agent gives notice in writing of his or her intention to be a
 11 write-in candidate to ~~the~~:

12 (A) The county board of election commissioners of each
 13 county in which the candidate seeks election; and either:

14 ~~(1)(A)(B)(i)~~ The Secretary of State, if a candidate for a
 15 Justice of the Supreme Court, Judge of the Court of Appeals, or a circuit
 16 judgeship judge, or prosecuting attorney; or

17 ~~(B)(ii)~~ A county clerk, if a candidate for a
 18 district judgeship district judge.

19 (2) The written notice ~~must~~ shall be given ~~not~~ no later than
 20 eighty (80) days before the nonpartisan ~~judicial~~ election.

21 (3) ~~Write-in candidates~~ A write-in candidate shall file a
 22 political practices pledge at the same time as filing a notice of intention.

23 ~~(e)(1) A candidate for Justice of the Supreme Court, Judge of the~~
 24 ~~Court of Appeals, or circuit judge shall file with the Secretary of State.~~

25 ~~(2) A candidate for district judge shall file with the county~~
 26 ~~clerk.~~

27 ~~(f)(1)(A)(e)(1)(A)~~ A candidate for nonpartisan judicial office may
 28 candidate shall not use more than three (3) given names, one (1) of which may
 29 be a nickname or ~~any other~~ another word used ~~for the purpose of identifying~~
 30 to identify the candidate to the voters.

31 (B)(i) ~~A candidate for nonpartisan judicial office~~
 32 candidate may add as a prefix to his or her name the title or an abbreviation
 33 of an elective public office the candidate currently holds.

34 (ii) A candidate may use as the prefix the title of
 35 a judicial office in an election for a judgeship only if the candidate is
 36 currently serving in a judicial position to which the candidate has been

1 elected.

2 (C) A nickname shall not include a professional or
3 honorary title.

4 (2) The names and titles ~~as proposed~~ to be used by ~~each a~~
5 candidate on the political ~~practice~~ practices pledge shall be reviewed no
6 later than one (1) business day after the filing deadline by ~~the:~~

7 (A) ~~The~~ Secretary of State for ~~Supreme Court, Court of~~
8 ~~Appeals, and circuit court positions~~ a candidate for Justice of the Supreme
9 Court, Judge of the Court of Appeals, circuit judge, and prosecuting
10 attorney; and ~~by the~~

11 (B) ~~The~~ county board of election commissioners for
12 ~~district court positions~~ a candidate for district judge.

13 (3)(A) The name of ~~every~~ each candidate shall be printed on the
14 ballot in the form as certified by either the Secretary of State or the
15 county board of election commissioners.

16 (B) ~~However, the~~ The county board of election
17 commissioners may substitute an abbreviated title if the ballot lacks space
18 for the title requested by a candidate.

19 (C) The county board of election commissioners immediately
20 shall ~~immediately~~ notify a candidate whose requested title is abbreviated by
21 the county board of election commissioners.

22 (4) A candidate shall not ~~be permitted to~~ change the form in
23 which his or her name will be printed on the ballot after the deadline for
24 filing the political practices pledge.

25

26 SECTION 14. Arkansas Code § 7-11-105(d)(3), concerning special
27 election ballots, is amended to read as follows:

28 (3) Separate ballots containing the names of the candidates to
29 be voted on at the special election or nonpartisan ~~judicial elections~~
30 election, if applicable, and any other measures or questions that may be
31 presented for a vote shall be prepared and made available to voters
32 requesting a separate ballot.

33

34 SECTION 15. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1225 is amended to read as follows:
35 19-5-1225. ~~Judicial~~ Nonpartisan Filing Fee Fund.

36 (a) There is established on the books of the Treasurer of State, the

1 Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State a fund to be
2 known as the "~~Judicial~~ Nonpartisan Filing Fee Fund".

3 (b)(1) The fund shall consist of nonpartisan ~~judicial~~ office filing
4 fees ~~as set out in~~ under § 7-10-103.

5 (2) The fund shall be used ~~for covering~~ to cover the cost of
6 election expenses of the State Board of Election Commissioners as set out in
7 ~~§ 7-10-101~~ § 7-10-102 et seq.

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