

1 State of Arkansas  
2 93rd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2021  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1784

5 By: Representative Bryant  
6

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING FILING AS AN  
9 INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
10

### Subtitle

11 TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING FILING AS AN  
12 INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE.  
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16  
17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 7-7-103(a)(1), concerning independent  
20 candidate filings, petitions, and disqualification, is amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 (a)(1)(A) A person desiring to have his or her name placed upon the  
23 ballot as an independent candidate without political party affiliation for  
24 any United States office other than President of the United States or Vice  
25 President of the United States or state, county, township, or district office  
26 in any general election in this state shall file, ~~during the party filing~~  
27 ~~period for~~ by May 1 of the year in which the election is to be held, a  
28 political practices pledge, an affidavit of eligibility, and a notice of  
29 candidacy stating the name and title the candidate proposes to appear on the  
30 ballot and identifying the elective office sought, including the position  
31 number, if any.  
32

33 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 7-7-103(a)(2)(B), concerning independent  
34 candidate filings, petitions, and disqualification, is amended to read as  
35 follows:

36 (B) When a candidate has identified the position sought on



1 the notice of candidacy, the candidate shall not be allowed to change the  
 2 position but may withdraw a notice of candidacy and file a new notice of  
 3 candidacy designating a different position before ~~the deadline for filing~~ May  
 4 2 of the year in which the election is to be held.

5  
 6 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 7-7-103(b)(3)(A), concerning independent  
 7 candidate filings, petitions, and disqualification, is amended to read as  
 8 follows:

9 (3)(A) A petition shall ~~be on a form prescribed by the Secretary~~  
 10 ~~of State that includes without limitation~~ include a designated space for:

- 11 (i) The signature of the qualified elector;
- 12 (ii) The printed name of the qualified elector;
- 13 (iii) The date of the signature of the qualified  
 14 elector; and
- 15 (iv) The address of the qualified elector.

16  
 17 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 7-7-103(b)(3)(C), concerning independent  
 18 candidate filings, petitions, and disqualification, is repealed.

19 ~~(C)(i) The person filing for office as an independent~~  
 20 ~~candidate shall submit with the petition an affidavit that swears:~~

- 21 ~~(a) The signatures were not collected for a~~  
 22 ~~period over ninety (90) days;~~
- 23 ~~(b) The beginning and ending dates for~~  
 24 ~~collection of signatures on the petition are those as indicated on the~~  
 25 ~~affidavit; and~~
- 26 ~~(c) The signatures were collected and the~~  
 27 ~~petition was executed and submitted in compliance with the law.~~

28 ~~(ii) The affidavit under subdivision (b)(3)(C)(i) of~~  
 29 ~~this section shall be on a form prescribed by the Secretary of State.~~