

1 State of Arkansas
2 94th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2023
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 349

5 By: Senator B. King
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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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 person desiring to have his or her name placed upon the ballot
23 as an independent candidate without political party affiliation for any
24 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 12:00 noon on the first day of May of the year in which the
28 election is to be held, a political practices pledge, an affidavit of
29 eligibility, and a notice of candidacy stating the name and title the
30 candidate proposes to appear on the ballot and identifying the elective
31 office sought, including the position number, if any.
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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 by~~
4 12:00 noon on the first day of May of the year in which the election is to be
5 held.

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

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

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

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19 candidate filings, petitions, and disqualification, is repealed.

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

22 ~~(a) The signatures were not collected for a~~
23 ~~period over ninety (90) days;~~

24 ~~(b) The beginning and ending dates for~~
25 ~~collection of signatures on the petition are those as indicated on the~~
26 ~~affidavit; and~~

27 ~~(c) The signatures were collected and the~~
28 ~~petition was executed and submitted in compliance with the law.~~

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